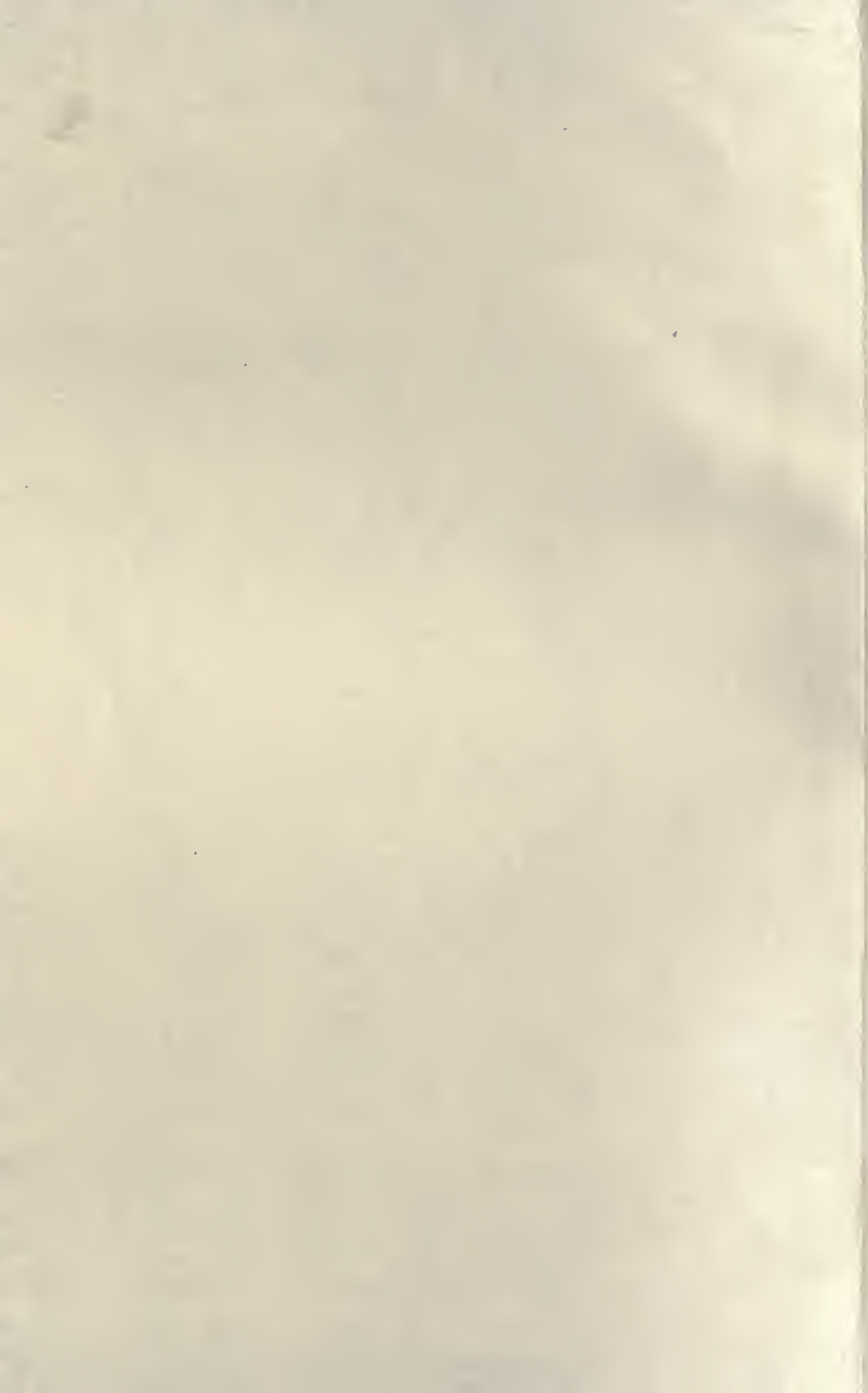


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# ADDRESS

OF THE

## Commander-in-Chief

Reports of National Officers

ALSO

Reports of Committees

OF THE

FORTY-SIXTH

NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT

*and Army of the Republic.*

Los Angeles, California

September 9 to 14

1912

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ADDRESS OF COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

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*Comrades:* We are assembled in this Forty-sixth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic for the transaction of such business as may properly come before us, and to consider such measures as may be deemed wise and prudent for the future welfare of our organization and consistent with the best interests of our country. Our best judgment and purely patriotic purposes should control us. We render thanks and the praise of our hearts to our Father in heaven for all the good that has come to us in the past, and in the year since last we met, and invoke His wisdom to guide us in all we do for the future, and His love to inspire us for more zealous and devoted service for our Comrades, our fellow men, and our country. .

Your Commander-in-Chief extends to you his sincere thanks for your earnest co-operation and counsel in all the good works of our beloved Order during the past year, and asks the continuance of your help here for the proper and speedy disposition of our business affairs, and that wise conclusions may be reached as to all the matters that shall be presented for determination by this Encampment. If we shall extend to each other those courtesies that should characterize the proceedings of those who meet in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty, we will take from here no other than pleasant recollections.

The work of the year has been quite strenuous. Your Commander-in-Chief visited seventeen Department Encampments and attended large meetings of Comrades, specially called, in six other Departments, in which the dates of their Encampments and the great distances of travel required to reach them forbade the pleasure of attendance at their regular annual meetings. It was not possible to visit the Encampments or such meetings in any of our other Departments. In those that were so visited Department officers and Comrades in attendance were most courteous and appreciative, and emphasized to the fullest extent, by their cordial greetings and hearty welcome, the great value of our comradeship. For all this, and for the kind and zealous attentions and courtesies of our National Aides-de-Camp on these occasions, very sincere thanks are here tendered. These most pleasant recollections are cherished far beyond the power of words to tell.

The correspondence of the year reached very large proportions.

The great variety of subjects and propositions and questions involved, the larger part of them properly, of course, but a very large part wholly foreign to Grand Army affairs, would cause any one, without the experience, to exclaim: "What next?" Endorsements have been solicited, and uniformly denied, for all sorts of business enterprises, and books, and musical productions, and memorials, and battlefield pictures and stories, and addresses, and organizations for all kinds of purposes, good, bad and indifferent, and many other things and about many other subjects too numerous to mention. In all cases where good might result or harm follow to our organization or Order answers were made, gladly and willingly. But in the latter class of cases, where only common courtesy commanded answers, there was a large waste of seventy-year-old energy.

There was one matter of correspondence which, with the result thereof, your Commander-in-Chief deems proper to be submitted to you in full. At the request of Past Commander-in-Chief General Louis Wagner, Chairman of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg Commission, created by an Act of the General Assembly of the State of Pennsylvania for the purpose of conducting a celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of that great battle on July 1, 2, 3 and 4, A. D. 1913, communicated to me and approved by Past Commander-in-Chief Ell Torrance, Chairman of our Standing Committee on the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, a letter was written and sent in words and substance as follows:

"Headquarters of the Grand Army of the Republic,  
"Memorial Hall, Chicago, Illinois, March 4, 1912.

"LIEUT. GEN. C. IRVINE WALKER,  
"Commander-in-Chief, United Confederate Veterans,  
"Charleston, South Carolina.

"Dear General: I have read your General Orders No. 9 with very great pleasure. From it I learn that you are fully advised of the action taken by the State of Pennsylvania, and the plans already well under way, for the celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, on July 1, 2, 3 and 4, 1913; and that you also know that the Commission created by that State has requested all surviving soldiers of the Civil War, North and South, to participate therein as officially invited guests, to be provided with seats in a body, at all official functions during the celebration, under joint direction of the Commanders-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic and United Confederate Veterans, subject, of course, to the approval of the Commission.

"If this event might mark the final and complete reconciliation between those of the opposing armies of fifty years ago, and the permanent establishment of harmonious and fraternal relations



between the North and South, it would certainly gladden the hearts of all our countrymen.

"To that end, voicing, as he believes, the common sentiment of his Comrades, and speaking for them in that behalf, the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic extends to you and your Comrades of the United Confederate Veterans most cordial greetings, and sincerely requests that you and your Comrades, in numbers as great as shall be possible, join with the veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic in the celebration of the Semi-Centennial Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg.

"Let us assemble there, and meet and greet each other hand to hand and heart to heart in the spirit of true friendship and brotherhood, born out of love for the Flag and devotion to our common country. Thus will all the wounds of our former strife be healed, as they must sometime be, that this people, as a united and vital force may effectively and mightily solve the problems of our Nation's destiny in world affairs and human progress.

"Let us assemble there and inaugurate a great Peace Monument, under which shall be entombed forever any lingering prejudices and bitterness that may have survived the ebbing tides of passion through half a century of peace, to symbolize to all our people, and to the generations yet to be, that even out of the dead dust and ashes of war, under the sunlight of our Christian civilization, the fragrant flowers of peace and amity may grow and bloom.

"Let us assemble there, where so many Comrades of the Blue and of the Gray found common sepulture on that historic field, made immortal in the world's memory by their unexcelled heroism, and there, in that sacred presence, mutually pledge to each other our constant fealty to a reunited and indissoluble American Republic.

"With this invitation goes the outstretched hand of friendship, which I feel will surely be accepted in the spirit in which it is extended.

"Fraternally and Sincerely yours,

"H. M. TRIMBLE,

*"Commander-in-Chief, G. A. R.*

"CHARLES R. E. KOCH,

*"Adjutant-General."*

In reply, on May 8, 1912, the United Confederate Veterans, at their Twenty-second Annual Meeting, held at Macon, Georgia, with great unanimity and enthusiasm, by a vote of 2,145 to 2, adopted resolutions in the words following:

"Whereas, Gen. H. M. Trimble, Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, voicing the common sentiments of his Comrades, has issued an invitation to the United Confederate Veterans to participate in all good fellowship with the Grand Army of the Republic in the celebration of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the

Battle of Gettysburg, which invitation is clothed in the most patriotic sentiments, which sentiments, so nobly expressed, we most highly honor; and,

"Whereas, The general invitation to participate in this celebration has been accepted by every state in our country, and all have appointed representatives, most of whom from the South being our Veteran Comrades; Therefore, be it

"Resolved: I. That the United Confederate Veterans cordially reciprocate the fraternity so warmly shown in this invitation and gladly accept in the same spirit of pure patriotism and sincere good will in which it has been extended.

"II. That the United Confederate Veterans most earnestly and heartily unite with the Grand Army of the Republic in the hope so well expressed by Gen. Trimble that this event may mark the final and complete reconciliation of those of the opposing armies of fifty years ago and the permanent establishment of harmonious and fraternal relations between the North and South, and that it may gladden the hearts of all our countrymen.

"III. That to induce the largest possible attendance of Confederate Veterans at said celebration and to represent the United Confederate Veterans in any co-operative effort with the Grand Army of the Republic, the Pennsylvania Gettysburg Commission, or others, in matters relating to the aforesaid celebration, a committee be appointed, consisting of Gen. C. Irvine Walker, Chairman, and one Veteran from each of the United Confederate Veteran Divisions.

"I certify that the above is correct.

"[SEAL.]

"WM. E. MICKLE,

*"Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff."*

The resolutions are certified as above under the seal of the organization of United Confederate Veterans and were transmitted to me by Gen. Walker, accompanied by his letter, in which he said that this invitation "was received with the utmost enthusiasm," and that the resolutions were adopted "with practical unanimity."

It is hoped that this correspondence will be approved by our Comrades here, and it is recommended that suitable acknowledgment be made, by resolution, in response to the action taken at the annual meeting of the United Confederate Veterans, as stated above, and that such acknowledgment be certified and duly authenticated, under the seal of our Encampment, and transmitted to the headquarters of the United Confederate Veterans by our Adjutant-General.

## THE WORK OF THE YEAR.

### PENSIONS.

The new pension law secured, which was signed by the President and became effective on May 11, 1912, must be considered first in

APPROVED TO YOU

OF THE YEAR

1912

importance. General Orders No. 7, issued from our headquarters on May 29, 1912, briefly tells the story of its accomplishment. Paragraph I of that order is as follows:

The Commander-in-Chief is greatly pleased to formally announce, and to congratulate our Departments, Posts and Comrades, that the two Houses of Congress have passed a liberal pension measure, which was promptly signed by President Taft on May 11, 1912.

Although our Government has heretofore paid to the Veterans of the Civil War more than four billion dollars, which is over one full half of the money cost of that mighty tragedy, this new enactment increases the annual distribution of pensions to our Veterans twenty-six million dollars.

In making this announcement, the attention of our Comrades everywhere is called to the ability and wisdom, perseverance, fidelity and devotion of our Committee on Pensions, to whose labors the gratifying result of securing an agreement between the widely divergent views expressed in the bills passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate is mainly due.

And he desires in the name of the Grand Army of the Republic to extend sincere thanks to Comrades Past Commanders-in-Chief Ell Torrance, Samuel S. Burdette and John E. Gilman, and Past Department Commanders Washington Gardner, Americus Whedon and Bernard Kelly, and Past Post Commander Henry S. Redman, the members of that Committee, for the splendid result achieved by them; and feels gratified that while thus expressing this appreciation of the united efforts of this Committee, all of them and all our Comrades will be pleased if he especially commends the tactful leadership and the self-sacrificing devotion given to this work by Past Commander-in-Chief Ell Torrance, of Minneapolis, the Chairman of the Committee. He freely gave his time for several months to the neglect of his private business, attending personally to this work in Washington. We are more deeply indebted to him and to this Committee than words can express.

While the new law enacted does not appropriate as much money as other proposed measures might have done, it differs radically in the basic principles on which it is framed, length of service and increasing age combined, is more equitable between the Veterans themselves, more scientific, and nearer in accord with the expressed wish of the Forty-fifth National Encampment held at Rochester, New York, last August; and it carries as large an amount of money as the condition of the treasury would justify Congress to appropriate.

The united action of the Grand Army of the Republic concentrated in the labors of an efficient Committee secured this result; but the benefit accrues to a large number of the Veterans of the War, who are outside of the Grand Army, equally with our Comrades, in the added comforts provided by this new law. These should now be made to see this and induced to join our ranks.

The Commander-in-Chief also desires to personally acknowledge the earnest work of Comrade General I. R. Sherwood, of Ohio, Chairman of the Pension Committee of the House of Representatives, and of Senator McCumber, Chairman of the Pension Committee of the Senate, who met in Conference Committee in such generous spirit of concession that a deadlock was prevented and an agreement reached upon the splendid compromise measure which is now the law. A more fitting acknowledgment to our many friends in Congress, and to the President, should properly, and doubtless will be made by the National Encampment, to be held at Los Angeles in September next.

What was said in that Order, that the credit of securing this very satisfactory result "*is mainly due*" to the ability and wisdom, perseverance, fidelity and devotion of our Pension Committee, was true



then, is true now, and will remain true in the history of that legislation. It was a very courageous undertaking, to change the basic principles upon which all pension measures (other than for disability on account of wounds or disease) had theretofore been framed, and to combine, as was done in this measure, length of service and increasing age. That was the result of an agreement reached by our Pension Committee on December 12, 1911, at Washington. No pension measure, framed upon this double basis, had before then been introduced in our Congress, nor proposed in any other country. The wisdom of that action of our committee needs no discussion now; it has been fully demonstrated and vindicated. But the labors involved in working out the result upon this new double basis, and securing an agreement between the widely divergent views expressed in the two bills, one passed by the House of Representatives and the other by the Senate, were simply immense. Great ability and tact and perseverance and fidelity to the principles involved were required for the accomplishment of the result. All these requisites were furnished by our committee in such ample quantities that success could not be denied them. Their efforts were largely personal with members of the Pension Committees of the two Houses of Congress, and with other members of Congress. No written description of this work, however particularly and elaborately made, could give our Comrades throughout the country, in our several Departments, who were not on the ground in Washington and in touch with what was being done, an adequate idea of the mighty services of this Committee.

The report of the committee will be submitted to you here.

Some over-zealous Comrades, with insufficient information on the subject, have given your Commander-in-Chief a large share of credit for the result attained. The sincerity of such Comrades, for the most part, is not questioned. It is necessary, however, that such credit, in justice to myself and to our Committee, be wholly disclaimed, because it is not justified by the facts of the case. No call was made upon me for service by the Committee, or its Chairman, that was not responded to; but no service was rendered except at the request of the Committee or its Chairman, and in conjunction with them, or him, and always in harmony with the policies agreed upon by the Committee and under the leadership of the Committee.

Some criticism (in the form of a resolution lately passed by one of our Posts in the Department of Maryland) of our General Orders No. 7, has been made, because credit for services in behalf of our pension legislation was not given therein to an individual Comrade. It can not be certainly stated here, of course, under what inspiration, or procurement, the resolution was passed, but it can be certainly stated, that if the Comrades of that Post had been fully informed, of their own knowledge, of all the services rendered in securing the pension measure that was enacted, that resolution would not have been passed. And particularly would its passage have been refused,

had our Comrades there bethought themselves that it would have been wholly without the province of the Commander-in-Chief to do what it was complained he did not do. If individual Comrades rendered services of any considerable value, in aid of the work of our Committee, beyond that which any Comrade would have rendered had he been so circumstanced that he had the opportunity to do so, it would be properly within the province of the Committee to make fitting acknowledgment of all such services deserving particular mention, because the members of the Committee, or its Chairman, would have full knowledge of all circumstances and facts relating thereto. And it would have been discourteous to the Committee had the Commander-in-Chief invaded its province in that regard, even had he known that any particular Comrade was entitled to especial mention, which he did not in the particular case mentioned, although he was generally pretty well informed as to what was being done.

These things are compelled to be said here by my own consciousness that undeserved praise, relating to results accomplished, confers no honor, but usually does injustice to those who have rendered effective and valuable services; and that criticism, not based on full knowledge of all attendant facts and circumstances, so that it might justly be made, and not within the limits of the ordinary courtesies that should control us in what we do and say, contains no sting.

It is recommended that fitting acknowledgment be made by this Encampment, in the form of resolutions, of the splendid and arduous services of our Committee on Pensions. And also that the thanks of this Encampment be tendered, in the same form, to our Comrade, General I. R. Sherwood, Chairman of the Pension Committee of the House of Representatives, and to the Hon. P. J. McCumber, Chairman of the Pension Committee of the Senate, and to the members of those Committees and other members of the Congress, for their great services and aid given in behalf of the passage of the pension law lately enacted, and to the President for his immediate approval of the same. We are greatly indebted, in gratitude, to all who gave aid and support to our enterprise.

#### MEMORIAL AMPHITHEATER AT ARLINGTON, VA.

The Committee on Legislation for Veterans in the Public Service, to which this matter was entrusted, and especially its Chairman, Judge Ivory G. Kimball, Past Commander of the Department of the Potomac, has labored strenuously to secure the passage of an Act of Congress carrying the necessary appropriation, \$750,000.00, to erect this Memorial Amphitheater, at Arlington, Virginia, which is the great burial place of the Nation, according to the plans adopted by the Commission appointed under the provisions of an Act of Congress, and reported to Congress February 15, 1909, Document No. 1456, second session of the Sixtieth Congress, which has three times been endorsed and urged by our National Encampments.



The efforts of this Committee were so far successful that the bill was passed by the Senate on July 24, 1912. On August 2, 1912, a hearing was had before the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds of the House of Representatives, with the result that it is believed the bill will be favorably reported out for passage by that Committee in the early days of the next session of Congress, and that it will be passed and signed by the President, who has more than once recommended it.

The report of this Committee is commended to your attention, with the recommendation that their efforts be strengthened by additional resolutions passed by this Encampment.

#### AMENDMENT OF INTER-STATE COMMERCE LAW ABANDONED.

A bill was introduced in Congress for the amendment of the Inter-State Commerce Law, specifically giving to railroad companies the right to grant lower than the usual rates of passenger tariff to members of the Grand Army of the Republic to and from National and Department Encampments, with the view that if it were enacted into law it would enable us to secure lower rates to and from our Encampments than we have been able to get for a number of years past, one of the excuses of railroad officials having been that they could not grant such lower rates on account of the provisions of the Inter-State Commerce Law.

When our Committee on Legislation, (general legislation), of which Past Commander of the Department of Michigan, Hon. Washington Gardner, is Chairman, took the matter up, the Committee was immediately informed, both by railroad officials and by the Inter-State Commerce Commission, that such amendment of the law was not at all necessary in order that railroad companies might legally grant such lower rates, and that they might legally do so, if disposed, without the amendment. So it was demonstrated that one, at least, of the excuses given for previous refusals to grant us lower rates was a mere pretext without any foundation in fact.

Upon this state of the matter the effort to secure the passage of the amendment to the law was abandoned. The report of this Committee will interest you.

#### TREATMENT OF VETERANS IN NATIONAL SOLDIERS' HOME.

In pursuance of the action taken by our National Encampment, held at Rochester last year, (page 294 of Journal), your Commander-in-Chief, in accordance with the recommendation of that Encampment, appointed a Special Committee, consisting of Comrade Henry A. Axline, Past Commander of the Department of Ohio; Comrade Cola D. R. Stowits, Quartermaster-General, and Comrade Charles R. E. Koch, Adjutant-General, and gave such committee directions (as contained in Special Order No. 5, issued in that behalf on

March 9, 1912) to visit the National Home at Dayton, Ohio, and such other National Homes as, in their discretion, it might become necessary to visit, for the purpose of inquiring into the conduct of such Home or Homes, and to carefully investigate the allegations contained in an article in Pearson's Magazine for July, 1911, and other like publications, and such other information as might be brought to their attention, and to report facts learned, with their observations, and to make such recommendations as they might deem proper.

This committee reached the Dayton Home on March 12, 1912 (which is the oldest branch of our National Home for Disabled Soldiers) and spent sufficient time there to enable them to make a full and thorough and painstaking investigation of the conduct of affairs there, the conditions existing, the treatment of the more than 3,000 members there, their accommodations, barracks, beds, food, hospital care and treatment, institutional features, use of Post funds and Posthumous funds, etc., and submitted their report thereof, in writing, containing their suggestions and recommendations; to all which your careful attention and consideration is invited.

This report of the committee is so plain and clear, so thorough and exhaustive, and the suggestions and recommendations contained in it are so reasonable, practical and humane, that your Commander-in-Chief deems it wholly unnecessary to add further comment upon the matters presented by it. It is, therefore, submitted for such action thereupon as this Encampment, after deliberation, shall deem necessary and wise, and for the best interests of our Comrades and the Veterans who constitute the membership of our National Home in this Dayton branch and in the other branches thereof.

No other branch than the one at Dayton was visited by the Committee. It is supposed they reached the conclusion that it was not necessary because all the different branches and the Sanitarium are practically conducted in the same manner, under the rules and regulations established by the Board of Managers.

This report was submitted by our committee to the Board of Managers of our National Home. The answer of the President of that board, Major J. W. Wadsworth, of New York City, is attached to the report of the Committee as an exhibit thereto, and your attention is called to the contents thereof.

#### OTHER COMMITTEES.

The reports of our other committees, so far as they have been rendered to these headquarters, relating to the several matters committed to their charge, respectively, contain all the necessary facts and circumstances to enable this Encampment to take such action as shall be deemed expedient in each of such several matters.

Therefore no comment on these reports appears to be necessary here. The reports themselves, and recommendations therein con-

tained, are submitted to the careful attention and consideration of this Encampment.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS OF SERVICES AND COURTESIES.

Any Comrade who assumes the duties, responsibilities and labors of Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic must necessarily, at the outset, be much concerned about the personnel and the individual characteristics of the members of his official family, some of whom are elective and some appointive, because upon them must depend, in large measure, the success or failure of administration, and because personal acquaintance, approaching intimacy, is usually limited to but few of those upon whom he must rely for aid and counsel, and because, in the first instance, he can not certainly know, until informed by actual experience, to what extent he can surely rely upon the aid and counsel of Comrades who are not of the official family for very much essential help necessary to success. Fortunately for me, this concern was almost immediately substituted by well founded confidence in those who were to be associated with me during the past year, and in those who were to speak and render assistance by reason only of their interest in and fidelity to the great works of our organization. The hope expressed at Rochester, in this last mentioned regard, has been fully and most happily realized. And so a few words of commendation of the services of individual Comrades are permissible here, not merely formal and meaningless words, but words of live and vital meaning, honest, earnest and sincere, spoken out of the gratitude of my heart.

Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief Nicholas W. Day, of New York City, has at all times performed the duties requested of him, and has otherwise been of service where opportunity was offered. His report is worthy of your attention.

Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief William A. Ogden, of Ness City, Kansas, has promptly answered every call made upon him during the year. He has been one of the "live wires" of the administration, as his report shows. Our Comrades have appreciated his services, and we tender him here sincere thanks and congratulations.

Our Surgeon-General, John D. Hanrahan, of Rutland, Vermont, has given his attention, with care and fidelity, to the matters of his department. His report, and the recommendations contained in it, are submitted to your favorable consideration, particularly the one relating to parades at our National Encampments.

Our Chaplain-in-Chief, J. Wynne Jones, D. D., of Baltimore, Maryland, has rendered valuable services in calling attention to the omissions of many of our Post and Department Chaplains. This department of our work needs attention, that it may be made more



effective than it has lately been, particularly during the past year. The report of our Chaplain-in-Chief, and the recommendations contained in it, some of which are certainly good, are commended to your attention and careful consideration.

Adjutant-General Charles R. E. Koch, of Chicago, Illinois, of whom almost everything in the way of splendid service was expected at the beginning of this administration, has performed the duties of that office with such thoroughness and painstaking care, with such knowledge and command of all its details, with such tact and good humor, and with such integrity and superior wisdom, that he has come to be among the most highly respected and best beloved Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic. His wise counsel to your Commander-in-Chief has been an important factor in this year's administration. His scholarly attainments have been appreciated everywhere. His pen is as mighty now as was his sword during the years of his service in the army. His valuable services command my sincere thanks here and my lasting gratitude through all the years to come. His report will interest you and is here submitted for your consideration.

Quartermaster-General Cola D. R. Stowits, of Buffalo, New York, has fully maintained the high reputation he had earned by three years of faithful and valuable service rendered under the three preceding administrations. His systematic methods and great care and absolute integrity in the management of our financial affairs have been of much value to our organization. The suggestions contained in his report are deserving of your attention and should have your careful consideration. He fairly presents the financial needs of our organization, upon which it is recommended that this Encampment take immediate action, in such manner as may be deemed most expedient, to relieve the situation.

Judge Advocate-General William A. Ketcham, of Indianapolis, Indiana, has had an arduous year of service. His great ability and superior learning in his profession, his powers of analysis, his broad-minded mode of treating things upon their merits, his clear discrimination between right and wrong, his keen perception of the difference between the Rules and Regulations of the Grand Army of the Republic (a voluntary organization) and of their application, and the ordinary rules of law applicable to property and other rights, and his intense fidelity to the best interests of our Order, have enabled him to solve all the questions submitted to him, (and some of them have been very vexing indeed), in a most satisfactory manner. His opinions are very interesting and worthy of your careful consideration. Particular attention is called to his opinion No. 2, relating to the Trustees of our Permanent Fund, and to his opinion No. 4, relating to the incorporation of the Grand Army of the Republic, and his opinion No. 7, relating to a most unhappy condition of things at Grand Junction, in the Department of Colorado and Wyoming.

Sincere thanks are tendered him here for his valuable services to our organization during the year.

Inspector-General John H. McClay, of Lincoln, Nebraska, has performed the duties of his office with much ability. His report shows quite unsatisfactory conditions in his department of our work. It would doubtless be greatly beneficial to our Order if his suggestions, and some of those made by his assistants in our Departments, should be acted upon and carried out.

National Patriotic Instructor John B. Lewis, of Boston, Massachusetts, has performed an unprecedented amount of labor in his department, and did it well. He has greatly stimulated the activities of our patriotic work throughout all of our Departments, the benefits of which will be felt and realized by our citizens all over the country in the early future as well as in the years to come. His labors in the South have produced very gratifying results. His report is very interesting and should be read and pondered by every member of the Grand Army.

Assistant Adjutant-General Jerome A. Watrous, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, has, at the date of this writing, made no report, as none seemed to be required. His duties are, almost wholly, to be performed at this Encampment. That they will be well performed there can be no doubt, and thanks are tendered in advance.

Assistant Quartermaster-General and Custodian J. Henry Holcomb, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, has served us in that capacity for seventeen years. No word of mine could add anything to his high reputation earned by that long service. We all know that his duties are always promptly and properly performed. His very concise report is submitted to you, with the recommendation that the appropriation of one hundred dollars, for which he asks, to bind the files of Department Journals, be made, and that he be directed to cause the work to be done.

Our Chief of Staff, William P. Wright, of Chicago, Illinois, has performed every duty and service that came to him during the year up to this date, and will certainly perform all those that shall come to him during this Encampment, in most fitting and satisfactory manner. Sincere thanks are tendered him now.

Senior Aide-de-Camp John M. Vernon, of Chicago, Illinois, the first Comrade who has occupied that position as a separate appointment, has been a very useful Comrade, in many ways, around headquarters. If you want to know anything about Grand Army affairs, ask him. If you want to know how to do anything that you never did before, he can tell you. If you want good judgment, you can get it of him. If you want good advice, he has it to spare and will give it to you for nothing. If you want good comradeship, he will furnish it. If you want to know who saved the Union, he can tell



you. If you want to organize for effective Grand Army work, he can give you some lessons that are worth while. And these things are all said in dead earnest. He has our sincere thanks for "sticking around" with us during the year.

Our Executive Committee has held no meeting during the year prior to that held here, at Los Angeles, on the Ninth day of this present month. But by correspondence with its members, and personal conferences with a number of them, their advice and counsel has been taken relating to our business affairs and policies. A majority of this committee, however, met at Los Angeles in January last with the Executive Committee of that city, and there made final arrangements and contracts for the holding of this Encampment. Past Inspector-General Henry Z. Osborne, Executive Director of this Encampment, of Los Angeles, is tendered our sincere thanks, and is entitled to the thanks of this Encampment, for his extraordinary services in the making of such final arrangements and contracts. And here again the wisdom of retaining experienced Comrades in service on our Executive Committee was fully demonstrated.

To all these Comrades, for their faithful and efficient services, and for the numberless courtesies shown to me personally, my most earnest and sincere thanks are tendered here. They have won my profound gratitude and the deep love of my heart, which will abide with them until the end shall come.

We are indebted and the thanks of this Encampment are due to the Board of Directors of the Grand Army Hall and Memorial Association of Illinois for the free use of rooms for our headquarters, at Memorial Hall, Chicago, Illinois, by reason of which courtesy we have been saved the expense of the rental of suitable rooms for that purpose elsewhere.

By request from our headquarters, Comrade Thos. S. Hopkins, Past Commander of the Department of the Potomac, of Washington, D. C., procured the passage of a joint resolution, by Congress, and its approval by the President, on January 18, 1912, authorizing the Secretary of War to deliver to the order of our Quartermaster-General two dismounted and condemned bronze cannon, used in the Civil War, for the purpose of furnishing official badges and bronze buttons for our Order. Thus the expense of a trip to Washington City by the chairman of our Committee on Legislation was saved to our treasury. The cannon were promptly delivered.

For that courtesy and service this acknowledgement is made and our thanks tendered to Comrade Hopkins.

Many Comrades, not members of our official family, too many to be separately mentioned in this address, have rendered valuable services about numerous things and in numerous ways, and many others have given timely advice and counsel in matters about which they were fully informed. Those who have given such services and counsel will recognize that what is said here is intended for them,

and will know that their services and counsel have been fully appreciated at headquarters. For all which this acknowledgment is made and our most sincere thanks now tendered.

To the Local Executive Committee of the City of Los Angeles we are greatly indebted for the most generous spirit in which they met our Executive Committee and concluded the final arrangements and contracts for this Encampment.

#### ARMY NURSES.

We saw them fifty years ago. We heard their gentle voices then. We saw them kneeling beside our wounded and sick Comrades, and with quick and skillful hands administering to their needs and their comfort; sometimes in heroic efforts to save a life, and sometimes in gentler moods to soothe their pains and anguish. And sometimes we saw them bending low, with bated breath, listening to the last whispered words of our dying heroes to their loved ones at home; and then we heard their sweet promises that those messages of love would surely be sent, and then the prayer, and then, on wings of consecrated, patriotic love, the souls of these dead heroes of ours were borne to heaven's gate. We can never forget these things, and we would not if we could. We could not over-estimate the services they rendered to our Comrades and our country then. We should not under-estimate them now. Each and all of these devoted and patriotic women, who now survive, should have the loving care and kind consideration of every Comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic and of every patriotic citizen of this Nation.

#### THE WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS, OUR AUXILIARY.

The Woman's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic, must be conceded first place in patriotic work among all the organizations in this or any other country. The spirit of loyalty and helpfulness pervades the entire organization—members, Corps, Departments and National organization alike. They seek out all the opportunities to do good for the Comrades of the Grand Army, and otherwise, and when found improve their opportunities in most generous manner.

Under the wise, energetic and tactful leadership of their National President, Mrs. Cora M. Davis, of Union, Oregon, and by reason of the great activity of their Department and Corps officers and membership, the work and accomplishments of their organization during the past year have been wonderfully successful, commanding our highest appreciation and profound gratitude.

The number of their Corps is 2,832. Their work has resulted as follows: Cash expended for relief, \$42,053.74; estimated value of relief, other than money, \$60,111.83; cash turned over to Posts, \$31,397.45; cash expended for Memorial Day, \$12,646.49; cash

expended for Southern Memorial Fund, \$1,800.34; cash expended for army nurses, \$1,220.00; cash expended for National Relief Fund, \$45.00; cash expended for band for Memorial Day at Andersonville, \$60.00; cash expended for patriotic work by the National W. R. C., \$1,000.00; cash expended for patriotic work by Corps, \$15,248.97; cash turned over to Posts by W. R. C. Aides to pay dues for Comrades, \$538.10; making the total cash \$106,610.09 and total sum \$166,121.92. Number of soldiers assisted, 7,578; number of members of soldiers' families aided, 13,755; number recruited for Posts by National Aides of W. R. C., 525. First, yea, first, and incomparable!

"I was a-hungered, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me."

When? Now, this year! Where? All over the country, wherever a needy Comrade of the Grand Army of the Republic might be found! By whom? The Woman's Relief Corps, Auxiliary to the Grand Army of the Republic!

"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

And their reward? The glory of our country and our civilization, here; and here, too, that joy and sweet content that come, of kind deeds performed and kind words spoken, to the loving hearts of those who do and speak such deeds and words. And over there, beyond the changing tides of time, in the morning of that day that shall have no night, will come to them the glory that will not wane, the joy and sweet content that will not pass away, and the crown that will not fade.

#### LADIES OF THE GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

The work of this organization during the past year under the able and diplomatic leadership of their National President, Mrs. Catherine Ross, of Chicago, Illinois, is worthy of our attention and commendation. The gain in membership has been 5,133, and the loss 3,427, showing a net gain of 1,706. Aid has been given to Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic, since June 30, 1911, to the amount of \$2,841.41, and expended for relief to the amount of \$34,783.23. The total expenditures for relief during the twenty-six years since organization amount to the enormous sum of \$1,151,685.61, other than the estimated expenditures for the year up to June 30, 1912, for fuel, clothing, food, etc., amounting to \$11,610.79, and \$222.00 has been contributed during the year to the Southern Memorial Fund. There are 12,642 Comrades and Sons of Veterans on the roll of honorary membership of this organization.

This is a most creditable showing and commands our gratitude. The old saying that "blood will tell" finds confirmation here. The



members of this organization are very near to us, not only because of kinship by blood, but by reason of their efforts in our behalf and for our Comrades who need help, and because of their great zeal in the works of charity that are near our hearts, and because of their fervent devotion to our country and to patriotic teaching.

All hail to our mothers and sisters, our wives and daughters! God bless them, every one!

#### SONS OF VETERANS.

The action taken at our last National Encampment, inviting the Sons of Veterans, United States of America, to act as our permanent official escort on all occasions, and recommending to all Departments and Posts of the Grand Army of the Republic to invite them to act in the same capacity, (see Journal, pages 285-286), was a step in the right direction. The wisdom of it has been confirmed during the past year by the services rendered by Sons of Veterans in many parts of the country, on Memorial Day, and other occasions. The service as escort has logically led to the rendition of other services by them, which have in many instances greatly relieved our Comrades from physical exertions now really beyond their strength. And, beside, the moral effect of such action has been to greatly increase interest and activity among the Sons of Veterans already in the membership of the Order and also among those who are eligible to such membership. And so, under the splendid leadership of their Commander-in-Chief, Newton J. McGuire, of Indianapolis, Indiana, and of their Division Commanders, and of many active Camp officers and members, it has transpired that their work of the last year has been exceptionally successful and beneficial not only to their own Order, but to the Grand Army as well. For their services we sincerely thank them, and upon their prosperity we most heartily congratulate them.

Without being able to give the figures exactly, because that data has not been furnished, the indications are that the Order has increased in membership this year about five thousand. Interest has been awakened in the West and Middle West, where the organization has heretofore been weak in numbers. A new Division was organized in Idaho on June 26, 1912, with ten Camps and about three hundred members. A number of Camps have been organized in South Dakota and Oregon, and there is good prospect that Divisions will be organized in those States at an early date. The Division of California doubled its membership within the last six months, and the Divisions of Maine, Missouri and Ohio have made splendid gains within the year. It was my great pleasure to be present at Albany, New York, on February 12 last, when a Camp was instituted there with nearly two hundred members.

In accordance with resolutions adopted by the last Encampment of California and Nevada, and also by the last Encampment of the

Department of Illinois, this Encampment will be memorialized to request that the name of the Sons of Veterans' organization be changed to "Sons of the Grand Army of the Republic." If such a memorial is presented, your Commander-in-Chief, believing that it would benefit that Order, respectfully recommends that such change be requested and authorized.

Everything that the Grand Army of the Republic can do, in its Posts and Departments and National Encampments, so long as it shall exist, should be done to cause the Sons of Veterans to build up and strengthen their organization, and to increase the activity and zeal of its membership in all the patriotic exercises and observances heretofore practiced and established by the Grand Army of the Republic, and now so generally participated in and recognized by a very large part of the citizens of our country. It is to be hoped that they will come to realize, to the fullest extent, the great value of organization and leadership in all such matters; and that their zeal in all patriotic works and teaching will be commensurate with their pride in the mighty achievements of their fathers. We do not doubt their loyalty to us, or to their country, for a moment. We know they will keep the memory of their fathers, and of their great services, sacredly; and we know, too, that they will keep the Flag of our country in the sky.

#### DAUGHTERS OF VETERANS.

The National Alliance of the Daughters of Veterans, under the patriotic leadership of Miss Philippine M. Schoeman, of Buffalo, New York, is the youngest organization allied with us for patriotic service. Its members are intensely patriotic, and never lose an opportunity to make manifest their ever-increasing pride in the heroic services and patriotic record of their fathers. Although not strong in numbers, they are extremely zealous at all times in all the good works of the Grand Army of the Republic.

Their work during the year, as informally reported, is as follows: Gain in membership, 654; Charters issued, 12; Department organized in Maine, and preparations made to organize Department in Pennsylvania before close of the year. Cash expended: For Relief, \$1,269.20; for Flowers, \$2,035.09; turned over to Posts, \$2,101.06; Soldiers' Homes, \$1,095.34; Patriotic work, \$164.13. Total, \$6,664.82. Now in Relief Fund, \$889.62, and in Floral Fund, \$590.54. Total, \$1,479.16.

Flags presented, 477; Schools visited, 143; Patriotic entertainments on National Anniversaries, 70. This showing demonstrates the zeal of our Daughters in our behalf and in patriotic teaching.

Our Posts and Departments, as well as our National organization, should in the future give them more encouragement and assistance in strengthening and increasing the membership of their Order than has been done in the past. We should omit nothing that we can do



to help them. They are our daughters. When we are gone they will not forget us; they will keep our memory green; they will strew sweet flowers upon our graves, and they will be true to righteousness and to liberty, and to the great Republic which their fathers saved and redeemed, and true to the Flag.

#### MEMORIAL DAY.

Our Memorial Day, this holiday of sacred memories for all our people now, was generally kept and observed this year, as it has been for many years past, by the Grand Army of the Republic, our Auxiliary and other allied patriotic organizations, and by the millions of our people all over the land, who come on that day each year to strew sweet flowers, in loving memory, upon the graves of the Nation's heroes. The great heart of our patriotic people is true now to righteousness and Liberty, and to this great Republic saved and redeemed by the heroism of those whose graves we decorate, and answers the call to patriotic duty with keen and tender sympathy, as a tribute to the memory of our dead Comrades. This day, with its teachings and ceremonies, is the most sacred Memorial, save only one, ever kept and observed among men. And it will be kept and observed long and long after the Grand Army of the Republic shall cease to be. The generations that shall follow us will recount, with tender pathos, the memories of this day, and the mighty valor and sacrifices of those who sleep beneath the flowers, and in the sacred presence of that pulseless army, swear "eternal fidelity to the land of their life, their liberty and their love."

#### FLAG DAY.

Flag Day, June 14, was quite generally observed this year, although not so universally as we would like. A considerable number of people in most all of our communities remembered it, but still much the larger portion of our citizens did not observe it. Our department of patriotic instruction did much to improve the conditions existing, but much more needs to be done in the future, that the Flag may come to mean to all our people what it meant to us fifty years ago, and what it means to us now, that it is really the emblem of our freedom and of all the splendid institutions of our country that we love, and that it is the emblem of the power that protects, and should decorate, our homes.

#### MONUMENT TO LOYAL WOMEN.

In the first paragraph of General Orders No. 9, issued from our headquarters August 10, 1912, attention was called to the erection of a fitting Memorial to the Loyal Women of our country, to commem-

orate their great services and devotion, their willing sacrifices and unequalled fortitude during the period of our Civil War.

What was stated in that order is repeated here: That "Such Memorials are the letters of a great language, by which one age tells to another its deepest feelings, its greatest passions, its highest hopes, and its noblest deeds." We owe it to our mothers, wives, sisters and daughters that we shall spare no effort to cause such a Memorial to be erected at the earliest possible date. If we shall fail to do all in our power to accomplish this, it will be written, in the future, across the brightest pages of our record, "They left this debt of gratitude unpaid." We can not contemplate that result without a shudder.

It is recommended that this Encampment take such action in that behalf as shall be deemed expedient to further this enterprise.

#### PERMANENT FUND.

The condition of our Permanent Fund is most satisfactory. A statement furnished July 12, 1912, by Past Commander-in-Chief Wagner, one of the Trustees, shows investments on August 1, 1911, at \$30,000.00; investments since then, \$7,000.00; total investments, \$37,000.00. The account for this year shows: Cash on hand August 1, 1911, \$459.52; receipts since then, \$8,059.37; total for the year, \$8,518.89. Disbursements for the year: For investments, City of Philadelphia 4s, \$3,000.00; Cleveland, Ohio, school bonds, \$4,000.00; other small items of expense and premium on bonds, \$464.21; total, \$7,464.21. Balance in bank, \$1,054.88. This is no more than an interlocutory statement, without itemized details. The official report, itemized, for the full fiscal year, to August 1, 1912, will be furnished to the Encampment.

An amendment to our Rules and Regulations, relating to our Permanent Fund, has been proposed by the Department Encampment of the Department of Massachusetts, and it is respectfully recommended that the same be passed. It is believed that it will simplify procedure relating to this fund, and that under it some of the errors that have heretofore intervened will be avoided in the future, and particularly the errors in bonds securing the administration of this fund.

#### SOUTHERN MEMORIAL FUND.

The balance on hand in our Southern Memorial Fund at the end of last year was several hundred dollars less than sufficient to meet the demands of this year. Urgent call was made for contributions. The amounts received from our Posts and Departments were small and tardy in transmittal. The first remittances to our Southern Departments were generally about twenty-five per cent less than called for. The National President of the Woman's Relief Corps,

Mrs. Cora M. Davis, of Union, Oregon, being advised of this condition, immediately inaugurated energetic measures to supply the deficit. So vigorously did the Departments and Corps of our Auxiliary respond to her call that the deficit was quickly supplied, (almost before we had time to mourn about it), and their contributions did not cease until that organization had sent in \$1,800.34. That was splendid, generous work. And now there is a respectable balance on hand to the credit of that fund, to be applied to our work in that behalf next year. You are referred to the report of our Quartermaster-General for the exact balance. The observance of Memorial Day in the South, the decoration of the graves of our heroes buried there with flowers, with the patriotic addresses heard and exercises conducted, is productive of quite satisfactory results, and increasing patriotic interest from year to year. The necessary aid to continue the work should be gladly and promptly furnished. We must not neglect our duties to our heroic Comrades who sleep in the Southland.

#### INCORPORATION.

The subject of the incorporation of the Grand Army of the Republic has occasioned much and varied discussion. Our conclusions on such matters ought to be based upon sound business principles, notwithstanding the fact that ours is a voluntary organization. While we do not now feel very much concerned about our property affairs, the fact still remains that the experiences of the past, in all such voluntary organizations, teaches us that we should, at least, observe ordinary business prudence.

The lack of legal identity, when the Berger legacy was given us, deprived our treasury of several thousand dollars. And since then rumors have been circulated that other legacies have been withheld for that reason.

It is not believed by your Commander-in-Chief that the incorporation of our National body, or of our Departments or Posts, in such simple form as will merely give us legal status and identity can be at all harmful to our organization. This statement presumes that such incorporation shall be made in the simplest possible form, without in any wise disturbing the present status of our Posts, Departments or National body, under our Rules and Regulations. If all the rights, privileges and duties of our Comrades, Posts, Departments and National organization shall be observed, and left remaining as they now are, subject to such amendment as may hereafter be made in accordance with the Rules and Regulations, it is believed that such incorporation would be desirable.

But this is a matter which must be determined by the sound judgment of our National Encampment based upon full information in that behalf. Your attention is called to Opinion No. IV of our Judge Advocate-General, relating to this matter. The amendments



suggested by him, which accompanied that opinion, will be submitted to our Committee on Incorporation, with his consent, or otherwise submitted by him, at his discretion, when the matter shall be taken up for consideration by this Encampment.

With this suggestion, the matter is now submitted as unfinished business from the Forty-fifth National Encampment.

#### VITAL STATISTICS.

The report of our Adjutant-General shows as follows:

Members in good standing December 31, 1910.....	203,410
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#### GAINS.

By muster.....	4,722
By transfer.....	2,484
By reinstatement.....	4,577
By reinstatement from delinquent reports.....	3,183
	<hr/>
Gains.....	14,966
	<hr/>
Aggregate.....	218,376

#### LOSSES.

By death.....	11,594
By honorable discharge.....	837
By transfer.....	2,043
By suspension.....	7,422
By dishonorable discharge.....	124
By delinquent reports.....	5,000
	<hr/>
Making a total,.....	27,030
	<hr/>
Members in good standing December 31, 1911,	191,346

It will be observed that if the losses by suspension and the losses by delinquent reports, amounting to 12,422 members, as above stated, were added as they should be to the number of members on December 31, 1911, the total membership on that date would appear at 203,768. This result may not be exactly in accordance with the facts, owing to the basis upon which our vital statistics are made up. But it is probable that the actual number of members in good standing on December 31, 1911, is about 197,000.

The approximate number can be computed from the recapitulation of the report of our Adjutant-General.

The rate of mortality, based upon the number in good standing December 31, 1910, was a little less than 5.7 per cent.

## FINAL WORD.

My service as Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic will very soon be terminated. That it has been arduous enough can not be denied. That it has, for the most part, been full of pleasure and much enjoyment is most gratefully remembered. Results, of course, have fallen short of our desires. But if our Comrades are not wholly dissatisfied with what has been accomplished during the year, we will be content, even with a small measure of their approval. The high honor conferred upon me one year ago, at the Rochester Encampment, and the multitude of courtesies so heartily extended to me since then, are most gratefully acknowledged, and will fill the remainder of my life with sweet memories.

The place of the Grand Army of the Republic in the history of our country has been and still is unique. No other organization comparable to it, in its purposes, its work and patriotic services, its high ideals and its fervent comradeship, has ever existed in this or any other country. That it has been of immense value to our country and its progress, to human rights and liberty, to the cause of righteousness and the brotherhood of men, and to the cause of humanity, which is God's great cause, is written in golden letters on the pages of its history. The voice of the civilized world today, my Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, is calling to you and greeting you, not only as the surviving heroes of the mightiest war, involving the most momentous issues, of all the ages, but as the mightiest heroes of Peace the world has ever known.

Your valor, and the supreme heroism and devotion of our Comrades who fell amid the thunders and carnage of numberless battles, planted our Flag above the clouds, nearly fifty years ago, and since then, "The old Flag has never touched the ground, boys, The old Flag has never touched the ground." And it never shall.

But this arduous, pleasant task is well nigh done. "What is writ, is writ; would it were worthier." When this Encampment shall end and we shall part, we will wonder if we shall meet again? Gazing, with moistened eyes, into other eyes that answer back our thought: "If not here, may be, by God's grace, if worthy, over there," with tightening handclasp we will say, Farewell! "A word that must be and hath been.—A sound which makes us linger;" yet,—Farewell!



## REPORT OF SENIOR VICE-COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

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CHARLES R. E. KOCH, *Adjutant-General, G. A. R.*

*Comrade:* In obedience to custom I herewith submit my report, together with some suggestions in reference to a matter which occurs to me should meet consideration by the Grand Army.

Fortunately for the welfare of the organization, the constant, capable and effective devotion to the discharge of the duties of his office which has marked the successful administration of the Commander-in-Chief during the past year has limited the official service I have been called upon to perform chiefly to work in connection with the Executive Committee of the National Council of Administration. I have also attended numerous gatherings of the Comrades during the year, notably the Department Encampment of the State of New York held at Newburgh, and one held at Millerton, Connecticut, where Comrades from posts in Massachusetts, Connecticut and New York assembled to take counsel how best the interests of our fast-decreasing membership may be served, and to recall the memories of the times of mingled joys and sorrows which knit close the ties formed during our service for the Flag.

One of the chief objects for which the Grand Army of the Republic was established was to keep alive the spirit of patriotism and to discountenance whatever tended to impair "loyalty."

It is now nearly fifty years since the war ended and to this generation it has become largely a matter of history. Few of the people of today can appreciate the intense patriotic fervor, the devotion and sacrifice by which the nation was preserved, and many of them are apt to lose sight of the issue involved in that struggle—the existence of the government.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. and L.

NICHOLAS W. DAY,  
*Senior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.*

## REPORT OF JUNIOR VICE-COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

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NESS CITY, KAN., July 20, 1912.

CHARLES R. E. KOCH, *Adjutant-General, G. A. R.*

*Comrade:* In accordance with your request, I hereby submit a brief report for the consideration of the Forty-sixth Encampment, I have responded to every call made upon me.

The first one was to attend a State-wide reunion of Kansas G. A. R. the week of September 26 to 28, 1911, and laying the corner stone of the Soldiers' Memorial and Historical Building by President Taft September 27 at Topeka, under the auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic. It was a grand success and largely attended. At that time I took upon me the part assigned to Commander-in-Chief Trimble, as he could not be present.

January, 1912, I installed officers-elect of Posts at Wichita, Emporia and Newton, Kansas, and January 6 I had the pleasure of riding with Commander-in-Chief and staff from Emporia to Hutchinson, en route to Los Angeles, California.

I attended Lincoln Day celebration at the National Military Home at Leavenworth, February 12, under the auspices of the G. A. R. and W. R. C., and delivered a Lincoln address on that occasion. A new G. A. R. Post for the Home Veterans was started and organized. I enjoyed being with my old disabled Comrades.

I attended the Department of Oklahoma G. A. R. Encampment at Kingfisher May 20 and 21, on invitation, and made an address, as the Commander-in-Chief could not come.

I attended the Kansas Department G. A. R. Encampment at Wichita June 22 and 23, which was an entire success. The Commander-in-Chief could not attend on account of other Encampments in Illinois and Indiana the same week.

At Hayes, Kansas, I made the Memorial Day address on May 30.

At Belleville, Kansas, I delivered a speech on Independence Day, July 4, at a G. A. R. and W. R. C. picnic on Court House Square. It was a grand success financially and in attendance.

I have accepted an invitation to attend two Veterans' Association Reunions

at Baxter Springs and at Dodge City, August 20, 21, 22 and 23. That will close my services as Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.

Comrades, I have tried to do my duty to the Grand Army of the Republic as it came to me. They did not give me the chance to thank you for the honor conferred on me at the Forty-fifth Encampment at Rochester, New York, which I will now do, for I highly prize that honor from my Comrades—more so than if you had elected me a United States Senator.

Respectfully submitted in F. C. and L.

WM. A. OGDEN,  
*Junior Vice-Commander-in-Chief.*



## REPORT OF SURGEON-GENERAL.

OFFICE OF SURGEON-GENERAL, RUTLAND, VT., July 15, 1912.

COMRADE CHARLES R. E. KOCH, *Adjutant-General, G. A. R.*

*My Dear Comrade:* Before submitting my report as Surgeon-General I desire to extend to the Comrades of the Forty-fifth Annual Encampment my sincere and heartfelt thanks for the great honor bestowed upon me after my departure from Rochester in electing me Surgeon-General of the Grand Army of the Republic. I consider it the greatest honor of my life and shall gratefully remember your action to the day of my death. I deem it a high honor to any man even to be mentioned by the grandest body of men on earth. I was obliged to leave Rochester before the close of the Encampment, much to my regret.

I wish also to return special thanks to Commander-in-Chief Trimble for his courtesy and kindness in especially detailing Comrade Charles E. Beach, of Burlington, Past Department Commander of Vermont, who came to Rutland with several Comrades to install me into office.

I have not much to offer in the way of a report, as I have had correspondence with only three Medical Directors—Comrade Dana, Medical Director of the Department of New Jersey; Comrade Day, Medical Director of the Department of Arizona, and Comrade Topham, Medical Director of the Department of New York.

The first thing that attracted my attention in a semi-official way after assuming my office was a circular letter issued by Comrade Topham, Medical Director of the Department of New York, establishing a Medical Relief Bureau in Greater New York, where Comrades of the G. A. R. can have advice and attendance adapted to their individual needs free of charge. The old soldiers are getting along in years and are not exempt from the usual infirmities of age, and the advice and attendance of specialists are at times of lasting benefit. I wrote Comrade Topham complimenting him on his thoughtfulness in doing pioneer work in this humanitarian line. The thanks of the National Encampment and Comrades in general are certainly his due.

Had I not returned from Rochester in ill health, which has continued more or less to the present time, I should have made special effort to have Medical Relief Bureaus established in most of the large cities, and, in my opinion (and I offer this as a recommendation) steps should at once be taken with this end in view, to establish at least one bureau in each State. Unless governmental aid could be secured, the support of these institutions

might properly come under the head of relief work in our order, aided by that never-failing source of supply, our noble Auxiliaries.

In this connection, while recognizing and appreciating the value of the work of all organizations banded together to aid in every needed way our country's defenders and their dependent ones, I wish especially to compliment and endorse the work of the Woman's Relief Corps. For many years I have been a daily witness of its efficient and self-sacrificing work and know whereof I speak. I regard this order as one of the noblest and grandest ever organized. Its members certainly have lived up to the principles and carried out the ideas on which their organization is based—the sustaining, supporting and aiding in every possible way the fraternal and philanthropic work of the Grand Army of the Republic, welcoming to their ranks, as did their predecessor of war-time fame (the Sanitary Commission) all loyal and worthy women, regardless of whether or not they had kindred in the army.

Please pardon a personal word. I entered the service in June, 1861, and was one of the youngest men on the medical staff. From that day to this whatever ability I possess has been freely given for the benefit of the Civil War Veterans, whether or not members of the G. A. R. While serving as president of the Pension Board and as postmaster in our city, I was always at the beck and call of a Comrade, and shall be while life lasts. My allegiance to our glorious Union and my love for her defenders and all that pertains to their welfare, are sentiments that strike their roots to the innermost depths of my being.

Our ranks are daily growing thinner, resulting largely from wounds and disease contracted while in the service, and everything possible should be done to husband our remaining strength. My predecessor has truthfully said that ninety per cent of our Comrades have hardening of the arteries and need to be cautioned in at least two particulars—to avoid hurry and worry. Very moderate and temperate habits and diet should be adhered to strictly, and more than ever before should we realize that the body is the temple of the soul and should be held in reverence and cared for as such.

Referring to another suggestion of my predecessor, that the question ought to be considered as to whether or not the officers shall ride in carriages or walk in the grand parade at National Encampments, since horseback riding is rather dangerous for men of their age, I would say that, in my opinion (and I offer this as a recommendation) the line of march should be shortened to a considerable extent, and all participants should walk, carriages to be supplied only for those who are crippled or for any other reason are unable to walk.

There is nothing too good for the veterans of 1861-1865, and we should call to aid every power in our land—national, state and local—to make pleasant and comfortable the declining years of our Comrades in arms.

In closing I return grateful thanks to the National Officers and Comrades in general, also the Woman's Relief Corps, for their many kindnesses and courtesies, and wish for them all every success and blessing.

Very truly yours in F. C. and L.

JOHN D. HANRAHAN,  
*Surgeon-General.*

## REPORT OF CHAPLAIN-IN-CHIEF.

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COMRADE CHARLES R. E. KOCH, *Adjutant-General, G. A. R.*

*Dear Comrade:* I have the pleasuer and the honor to submit my report as Chaplain-in-Chief of the Grand Army for the year now closing.

I desire to express to my Comrades my heartfelt thanks for so kindly and unanimously electing me to this high and honorable office.

My best endeavors, during the year, have been to honor the office to which I was elected. Three honors in my life I have held in the highest esteem—(1) that I was called to the ministry of the Lord Jesus Christ, (2) that I am a citizen of the United States, (3) that I am Chaplain-in-Chief of the Grand Army of the Republic.

It is a matter of increasing joy, as our years pass by, that we enlisted to serve our country in the hour of her greatest danger, and to help fight her battles against a powerful and aggressive foe, who endeavored to rend our beloved country in twain, tear the stars from our Flag, and destroy the sacred heritage committed to us by our forefathers, who consecrated our country by their suffering and blood, and dedicated it ever more to religious liberty and human freedom.

Today the heroic remnant of the Grand Army of the Union can see, as never before, the rewards of their struggles and sufferings—a reunited country, all animated with the same patriotic spirit, fighting our battles under one common flag, and united in maintaining and strengthening our national unity. Today we have the oldest, largest and the most powerful republic in the world, and the oldest and most historic Flag in history.

I am deeply impressed that God, by His marvelous deliverances of our country through the dangers of the past, has a great mission for this great republic to carry out in the future, which no enemies within or without can frustrate. It has been and is the refuge of the oppressed of all nations and people, and we, the defenders of our country through the great peril of the past, the dead and the living, have made it possible to carry out this glorious mission.

A new and wonderful nation is being created within our bounds, such as the world has never before seen. All nations and tongues are flocking to our shores, with their different traits of character and physiognomy, and by mingling and intermarrying it will become of one language and one people, with the blood of all nations coursing in the veins of future generations. Thus interrelated with all nations, and with a Constitution that has withstood the storms and violence of the past, it shall grow and develop



into a great nation whose powerful influence for good will govern the nations of the world. Already it has turned kingdoms into republics, and its "life, liberty and pursuit of happiness" has become the inspiration of the world.

#### REPORTS OF DEPARTMENT CHAPLAINS.

Only a few of these reports have come to hand, and from them it is impossible to give a numerical list of the Memorial Sabbath and Memorial Day Services. Many thanks to the Chaplains who have responded so promptly, and by their inquiries and suggestions have manifested their deep interest in our beloved organization. No doubt, there are others too, who would manifest the same prompt loyalty in service, if the post chaplains would forward their reports promptly. This is the complaint of some of the Department Chaplains who have sent me letters, but no reports. The Departments should endeavor in some way to secure immediate reports after the State Encampments.

Again, it would be well, if the names of the Department Chaplains could be forwarded immediately **after their election**, to the Chaplain-in-Chief to be listed for correspondence.

#### THE WOMEN'S RELIEF CORPS.

These faithful, earnest and hard working helpers are as faithful to duty today, as their mothers and sisters were during the great Civil War, fifty years ago. The same deep, loving loyalty to our country and flag is seen in this day, in their noble, self-sacrificing exertions for the relief of our veteran poor, sick and dying. May God bless them. May their devotion inspire future generations to imitate their noble deeds in time of need.

#### THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF VETERANS.

Very little is said in these Reports of The Sons and Daughters of Veterans, taking a part with the Grand Army in the Memorial Sabbath and the Memorial Day exercises. A closer relationship of these young and useful organizations with the Grand Army would be very desirable and profitable.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

A Past Chaplain-in-Chief, writes:—(1) "Permit me to call your attention to what seems to me an injustice to the clerical branch of the G. A. R. fellowship, and which it seems to me should be called to the attention of the proper committee or committees, at the annual encampment, either in the way of an embodiment in the Chaplain-in-Chief's Report, or otherwise; viz., the tendency of the Executive Committee having in charge the Soldiers' Homes in the United States, of ignoring the claims of Clerical Veterans to the appointment of the Chaplaincies of such Homes.

I have made some investigations in this direction, that almost without exception, this is the case, clergymen being almost uniformly appointed who have had no service, to the disparagement of veteran members of the

G. A. R. who may be perfectly competent in every way to fill these positions with credit to themselves, and certainly to the appointing power, as well as to institutions upon which they have surely a much greater and more equitable claim.

It seems to me a crying wrong that should be remedied, as I know a number of such eminently qualified and eligibles to such positions."

Other Reports recommend: (2) "That all teachers and pupils throughout the country be kindly requested to recognize Decoration Day by having the Stars and Stripes float over the school buildings, and patriotic services held in which the children could take a part to inspire the love of country in their young hearts."

(3) "That all denominations hold patriotic services in their respective churches on Sabbath preceeding Memorial Day, and that the pastors or ministers preach appropriate sermons on the occasion.

(4) "I suggest that the last SABBATH in May, be observed as a Memorial Day. Hoping thus to avoid games, races, dances, ragtime music, and a free rein to the spirit of pleasure."

This would not be a change for the better but rather for the worse. The people who would desecrate Memorial Day would desecrate the Sabbath, destroy its peace, violate its sanctity, break its sacred services and make it a European holiday, without regard for God or man.

(5) "That Memorial and Flag Day be united to lessen our holidays and strengthen both, by combining their exercises and influences. Why not make Flag Day, June 14, our National Memorial Day. We would thus give special honor to our Flag and our departed heroes."

(6) "That the Grand Army observe the fiftieth anniversary of the surrender of Vicksburg and Port Hudson by appointing a day when the Veterans who participated in the sieges can revisit the old scenes, decorate the graves of their fallen comrades with Flags and flowers, and have appropriate services held in commemoration of their heroic deeds. The opening of the Mississippi River and dividing the Confederacy had as much to do in overcoming the rebellion as the battle of Gettysburg. The same arrangements should be made for the celebration, next year, of these important victories, by the different States whose soldiers participated in their capture, as those who fought at Gettysburg.

Thanking my Comrades again for conferring upon me this high honor and deeply regretting that my report falls far short of my expectation, and finally, praying that the Lord in His loving kindness, bless all Comrades, here and everywhere, with rich and abundant blessings, I have the honor to remain,

Yours humble Comrade,

J. WYNNE JONES.

*Chaplain-in-Chief.*

## REPORT OF THE ADJUTANT-GENERAL.

COMRADE HARVEY M. TRIMBLE,  
*Commander-in-Chief, G. A. R.,*  
*Princeton, Illinois.*

MY DEAR SIR AND COMRADE:—Conforming to the requirements of the Rules and Regulations of our Order, and the long established precedents of my predecessors, I have the great honor and pleasure to submit herewith the reports of the officers of your administration, including that of my own.

The reports of all the officers, which are herewith submitted for your information, show a wonderful interest and painstaking care for the welfare of our Order and its comrades.

Permit me to call your attention to a few thoughts and observations which the experience of the past year in the discharge of my duties, as Adjutant-General, has forced upon me.

With this is submitted a consolidated table of gains and losses in Posts and in Comrades during the past year. From this table, which represents the status of the Order from the standpoint of the per capita tax roll alone, it would appear that our organization has declined from 203,410, on December 31, 1910, to 191,346, on December 31, 1911, or a net loss in membership of 12,245. The number of Posts has decreased from 5,923 to 5,745, being a net apparent loss of 178 Posts. However, this is only in appearance, because the number of charters actually surrendered, during this year, only amount to 48. This shows that in the various Departments 130 Posts and their component membership are carried as delinquents in the reports of the Assistant Adjutants-General. The effect of this is, that this membership is excluded from the totals reported to the Quartermaster-General, and contributes nothing to the support of our general expenses, and it also reduces the actual strength of the Order incorrectly and arbitrarily. It would seem much more just to the Order, if the various Departments would make their reports to this office upon a basis of the latest information obtainable by them, allowing a reasonable period of time before sending their Semi-Annual Reports to the office of the Adjutant-General, and accounting in the columns of losses only such losses as have actually occurred, as shown by reports received from Posts at their latest date.\*

It will be noted that our total actual loss, as shown by the table referred to, amounts to 12,064 members. From the table entitled "Recapitulation"

\*The reports for June 30, 1912, show a loss of 247 Posts. Seventy-three Posts surrendered their charters—this leaves 174 Posts delinquent but not actually lost.



herewith submitted, it will be seen that death made greater inroads than formerly upon our ranks, removing 5.7 per cent of our enrollment, as reported on December 31, 1910, amounting in actual numbers to 11,594 Comrades. This shows an actual loss in our membership over those taken by death of only 470 Comrades.

It must also be noted that in our gains, we show 7,760 Comrades by reinstatement, of whom 3,183 had never actually been out of the Order, they being simply so reported because the officers of their Posts had failed to perform their duties in rendering their required returns in the proper time. On the other hand, our losses by suspension of Comrades, and by suspension of Posts on account of such delinquent reports, have equalled 12,422 this year, of which 5,000 Comrades are lost in our enrollment and placed out of the Order because the officers of their Posts failed to make their reports in time.

If these 5,000 Comrades, who are counted out, had not been thus suspended, without any fault on their part, in place of a net loss of 470 over that made by death, we should have a net gain of 4,530 beyond the mortuary roll. Bad as this seems to be there is still another feature even worse, because beyond the losses by suspension reported in the gains and losses of the present year, there remains suspended under these same conditions 6,624 from former years. It would seem as though these Comrades should be held within the Order. With them restored to full membership during the coming year, the net loss in actual membership to your successor's administration should be scarcely perceptible in our enrollment a year hence.

It may not be out of place here to call attention to the financial feature that this involves in the business conduct of this Encampment.

It gives me great pleasure to state that the Departments of Arizona, Arkansas, California and Nevada, Colorado and Wyoming, Florida, Tennessee, Utah and Washington and Alaska have actually made gains in their membership during the present year. The cause for this undoubtedly is the migration of our Comrades to milder climates, but it nevertheless shows energetic work by the Comrades in these Departments in securing these gains in their membership.

The Quartermaster-General has called attention to our financial problems in carrying on the work this year, and he has stated the matter so well and concisely that perhaps my reference to it again may be looked upon as an act of supererogation, but even at the risk of having it so considered, I cannot refrain from stating the worry and solicitude which that officer and myself passed through when our Southern friends called for funds on Memorial Day, which we knew not where to obtain.

In our direst need we made appeals to our Comrades, to our Auxiliary, the Woman's Relief Corps, and our affiliated associations and help was poured forth in abundance.

To the liberal purse of the Woman's Relief Corps, touched by the magic wand of that most distinguished of women, the president of the Woman's Relief Corps, Cora M. Davis, and to the equally self-sacrificing efforts of that other grand woman who stands at the head of the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic, Mrs. Catherine Ross, we are indebted beyond expression or acknowledgment for relieving our distress, for furnishing the means

for remembering and decorating the graves of our Comrades who sleep in Southern soil, and for the replenishing of the funds to such an extent, that our successors next year will be relieved of the tension we endured in this respect. But the query presents itself to our mind, why should an army of 200,000 men have to appeal to woman's generous hand for this aid.

While the sums contributed by the greater women's Associations have drawn forth our special recognition, the very liberal mite contributed by the Daughters, under the devoted leadership of Miss Schoeman, is by no means to be ignored.

Early during your administration you instructed me to take up the matter of transportation to Los Angeles for the National Encampment and particularly the securing of low rates for this movement. In conjunction with Comrade H. Z. Osborne, and individually by myself, everything was done that was humanly possible to do to persuade the railroad companies, through their various passenger associations of this country, to get a low rate for this movement. As the result of our extreme efforts the rates that are now prevailing are the very best we could get these passenger associations to consent to. While this rate is not as low as the Comrades were given to understand at Rochester that it would be, it is a considerable concession. We found that the roads operating in the North, East and West were working under the handicap of restrictive legislation concerning their rates, which has made them less liberally inclined to the Grand Army of the Republic than formerly.

It is true that our friends of the Confederate Army, who meet in the South, always receive better rates for their gatherings from the railroads than we do in the North, but conditions of legislation have not antagonized railroad officials there as with us. We found that the railroad passenger officials were kindly disposed toward our Comrades, but imperative orders from the law departments of their roads forbade any concessions beyond those granted generally.

We also found that an Act of Congress permitting railroads to put the Veterans of the Grand Army of the Republic on the preferred class under the Interstate Commerce provisions would be of no force, effect or benefit to our Comrades, because it could not be made compulsory, and all the roads confessed that they had the right to do so now if they wished. Any specifically permissive provision of law would not accomplish the purpose which we aimed at in the slightest degree. They cited the case of the ministers of the gospel, and others, who are now under the preferred class upon the statute, but who receive no concessions by reason of this.

So taking into consideration that nothing could be gained by changing the location of the Encampment to any other point, so far as the railroads were concerned, after consulting the members of the Executive Committee of the Council of Administration, with your approval, it was decided to accept the rates of the railroad companies, as proffered, and continue in the arrangement for holding the National Encampment at Los Angeles.

It is my very great pleasure here and now to acknowledge the courtesies and consideration which it has been my great privilege to enjoy during the

past year and which has been extended to me from Comrades all over the country. While the duties of the office are more laborious than I had anticipated, candor compels me to confess that never has work been made more of a pleasure than has been vouchsafed to me in my intercourse with all of the members of our official family. To Comrade Stowits, the Quartermaster-General, and to his assistant, Comrade Holcomb, particular acknowledgment is due and extended. Under their experienced hands and with their systematic business methods, anyone appointed to the place to which your partiality advanced me must find smooth and comfortable sailing. I was a stranger and they took me in.

It is also my great pleasure to acknowledge here the faithful, intelligent and most conscientious service and assistance rendered us during the past year by our stenographer, Miss Clara A. Davis. The compensation paid her in money would not nearly recompense for her loyal service, and it is a pleasure to acknowledge that if the administration of the Adjutant-General's office, during the past year, has been satisfactory that a large share is due to her willingness at all times to labor regardless of hours.

And now, sir, permit me to say to you that while our relations for ten years have been such as to bring us in intimate contact in matters and affairs that have been to the perpetuation of the glory of the soldiers of our own state, and while it has been a source of great pride to have had the honor and pleasure of being thus associated with you, the high trust and confidence you placed in my ability, judgment and devotion to our Comrades when you expressed your choice for me as your official right hand in the discharge of the duties of the great office to which you were elevated in Rochester, N. Y., a year ago, bestowed upon me the greatest pleasure, highest honor and most laborious and happiest year of an active life's work. Fully sensible as I then was of the responsibilities of the task imposed upon me by your preference, it was my resolve to do all that was in my power to advance the interests of the great Order of which you are the head and to so conduct affairs as to bring credit on your administration, and to support this with all the loyalty, zeal and intelligence at my command. If the Comrades of the Order and yourself shall be as well satisfied with my efforts to discharge the various duties of my office, as under our peculiar conditions it has been given me to do it, I shall lay down the responsibility of this office with as much pleasure as it has given me to conduct it during the past year. I shall in cheerful gladness turn over its affairs to my chosen successor with as comradely and helpful spirit as my distinguished predecessor, Comrade Stillings, extended to me a year ago.

Let me assure you that the office itself though dignified, honorable and important, has been more so by reason of its association with the Commander-in-Chief, whom to know as a man is alone a great privilege, and with whom to have labored and been associated in a great work, is a benediction priceless and everlasting.

Faithfully yours,

CHARLES R. E. KOCH,  
*Adjutant-General.*



CONSOLIDATED RETURN OF POSTS AND MEMBERSHIP,  
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

For year ending December 31, 1911, and showing gains and losses for term  
ending December 31, 1911.

DEPARTMENT.	December 31, 1910.		December 31, 1911.		POSTS.		MEMBERS.	
	Posts.	Members.	Posts.	Members.	Gain.	Loss.	Gain.	Loss.
Alabama.....	5	104	5	96				8
Arizona.....	5	104	5	117			13	
Arkansas.....	20	409	25	435	5		26	
Cal. and Nevada...	103	6,015	104	6,044	1		29	
Colo. and Wyo....	62	2,283	61	2,300		1	17	
Connecticut.....	61	3,281	61	3,093				188
Delaware.....	19	511	19	489				22
Florida.....	23	445	23	547			102	
Ga. and So. Ca....	11	302	10	284		1		18
Idaho.....	20	547	19	505		1		42
Illinois.....	503	16,364	475	15,363		28		1001
Indiana.....	356	13,006	347	12,218		9		788
Iowa.....	335	9,851	337	9,286	2			565
Kansas.....	316	10,373	268	9,914		48		459
Kentucky.....	96	1,800	90	1,504		6		296
La. and Miss.....	45	946	38	777		7		169
Maine.....	149	4,530	145	4,186		4		344
Maryland.....	56	1,783	56	1,711				72
Massachusetts.....	210	12,769	209	11,965		1		804
Michigan.....	309	9,372	286	8,707		23		665
Minnesota.....	161	4,376	158	4,054		3		322
Missouri.....	226	6,283	225	5,913		1		370
Montana.....	16	459	16	424				35
Nebraska.....	183	4,226	177	3,830		6		396
New Hampshire.....	80	2,144	78	2,018		2		126
New Jersey.....	107	3,877	107	3,655				222
New Mexico.....	11	200	11	172				28
New York.....	585	21,948	585	20,583				1,365
North Dakota.....	20	329	10	172		10		157
Ohio.....	530	20,812	524	19,354		6		1,458
Oklahoma.....	94	2,024	66	1,498		28		526
Oregon.....	63	1,970	62	1,942		1		28
Pennsylvania.....	521	20,309	521	19,298				1,011
Potomac.....	17	1,760	15	1,640		2		120
Rhode Island.....	24	1,314	24	1,283				31
South Dakota.....	66	1,136	63	1,052		3		84
Tennessee.....	37	1,157	39	1,193	2		36	
Texas.....	21	476	20	432		1		44
Utah.....	6	299	6	321			22	
Vermont.....	89	2,356	89	2,271				85
Va. and N. C.....	34	531	32	471		2		60
Wash. and Alaska..	81	3,020	88	3,046	7		26	
West Virginia.....	36	1,131	35	1,074		1		57
Wisconsin.....	211	6,478	211	6,109				369
Aggregate.....	5,923	203,410	5,745	191,346	17	195	271	12,235
Net Loss 1911 to 1912.....						178		12,064

## RECAPITULATION.

Members in good standing December 31, 1910.....	203,410
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## GAINS.

By muster .....	4,722	
By transfer .....	2,484	
By reinstatement .....	4,577	
By reinstatement from delinquent reports.....	3,183	
	<u>          </u>	14,966
Aggregate.....		218,376

## LOSSES.

By death .....	11,594	
By honorable discharge.....	837	
By transfer .....	2,043	
By suspension .....	7,422	
By dishonorable discharge.....	124	
By delinquent reports.....	5,000	
	<u>          </u>	27,030
Members in good standing December 31, 1911.....		191,346
Total number remaining suspended December 31, 1911.....		6,624
Number dropped during the year.....		2,717
Number of Posts that surrendered charter.....		48
Expended in charity during year.....		\$91,369.51
Members and families relieved.....		2,969
Other than members.....		996

# MEMBERSHIP OF THE FORTY-SIXTH NATIONAL ENCAMPMENT.

The total number of names appearing on the roll of the Forty-sixth National Encampment, as shown by the following table, is 1598.

Deducting previously reported as indicated by †, the net voting strength is 1501.

NATIONAL OFFICERS. PAST NATIONAL OFFICERS. DEPARTMENTS.	Dep't Officers.	Represent- atives.	Past Dep't Command- ers.	Total.	Deduct Previously Reported. †	Net Voting Strength.
National Officers entitled to vote.....				10		10
National Council of Administration.....				44		44
Past Commanders-in-Chief.....				17		17
Past S. V. Commanders-in-Chief.....				21	5	17
Past J. V. Commanders-in-Chief.....				18	4	14
Alabama.....	4	1	18	23	2	21
Arizona.....	4	1	13	18	4	14
Arkansas.....	4	2	20	26	1	25
California and Nevada.....	4	13	36	53	2	51
Colorado and Wyoming.....	4	6	24	34	2	32
Connecticut.....	4	7	21	32	3	29
Delaware.....	4	2	21	27	2	25
Florida.....	4	2	18	24	2	22
Georgia and South Carolina.....	4	2	18	24		23
Idaho.....	4	2	20	26		26
Illinois.....	4	32	21	57	3	54
Indiana.....	4	25	17	46	1	45
Iowa.....	4	20	21	45	2	43
Kansas.....	4	21	23	48	4	44
Kentucky.....	4	4	19	27		27
Louisiana and Mississippi.....	4	3	8	15	2	13
Maine.....	4	9	20	33	2	31
Maryland.....	4	4	19	27	2	25
Massachusetts.....	4	25	16	45	2	43
Michigan.....	4	18	17	39	1	38
Minnesota.....	4	9	21	34	3	31
Missouri.....	4	13	24	41	5	36
Montana.....	4	2	16	22	1	21
Nebraska.....	4	9	21	34	2	32
New Hampshire.....	4	5	20	29		29
New Jersey.....	4	8	22	34	1	33
New Mexico.....	4	1	15	20	2	18
New York.....	4	42	22	68	1	67
North Dakota.....	4	1	18	23	3	20
Ohio.....	4	41	21	66	2	64
Oklahoma.....	4	4	28	36	2	34
Oregon.....	4	5	21	30		30
Pennsylvania.....	4	40	26	70	4	66
Potomac.....	4	4	29	37	4	33
Rhode Island.....	4	4	18	26	2	24
South Dakota.....	4	3	19	26	6	20
Tennessee.....	4	3	20	27		27
Texas.....	4	2	15	21		21
Utah.....	4	2	20	26	3	23
Vermont.....	4	6	22	32	1	31
Virginia and North Carolina.....	4	2	14	20	4	16
Washington and Alaska.....	4	7	18	29		29
West Virginia.....	4	3	19	26	1	25
Wisconsin.....	4	13	25	42	4	38
Totals.....	176	428	884	1598	97	1501



## REPORT OF QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

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BUFFALO, N. Y., August 10, 1912.

CHARLES R. E. KOCH, *Adjutant-General, G. A. R.*

*My Dear Comrade:* I have the honor to submit my report as Quartermaster-General, including the Account Current for the term ending August 10, 1912.

The question of finance is a most important matter at this time, and one in which I trust every member of the Forty-sixth National Encampment is interested.

I wish to call attention to the fact that our income, or revenue, is growing less and less each year, and while the annual expenses so far as salaries, etc., are concerned have been cut down to a minimum, it is almost impossible for us to keep within our income. The donation of all traveling expenses amounting to over \$1,200.00 during the term of our late Commander-in-Chief Nevius, and the generous sum of \$1,000.00 paid into the general fund by Past Commander-in-Chief Gilman as executor for our late Comrade Olin, has enabled us for the last two years to get along fairly well; yet in order to do so we have been obliged to economize in every direction.

Permit me to say in this connection that it has been the honest endeavor of our officers to use proper economy with a due regard to business principles and still meet if possible the requirements of our organization. I do think that we should use the greatest care in getting out General Orders and other printed matter, including the Journal, etc., and thus keep down incidental expenses.

I am not so sure; in fact I incline to the opinion, that we might, with perfect propriety, and without lowering the standing or dignity of our organization, ask Congress to print and distribute our literature and the Journal of our proceedings, as they surely contain valuable information and statistics. New York State and some others pay such expenses including the necessary clerk hire for their Departments. I make no recommendation as to this matter, but offer it as a suggestion worthy of consideration. Remember our only regular source of revenue is from Per Capita Tax, and the small profit from sale of supplies, and that the income from both are materially reduced and rapidly growing smaller each year. The zenith of our numerical strength of over 400,000 in the year 1890 is now but history, and today we have less than one-half that number in good standing. This great reduction in membership means a loss of over \$7,000.00 per year income from Per Capita Tax, together with a loss in like proportion from profits in sale of supplies

heretofore added to our General Fund; therefore you can readily understand why we are now running short of funds, and called upon to use the utmost care in expenses. We must continue to practice the most rigid economy, which I assure you has been the policy of the present administration.

We are confronted with a condition, so far as finances are concerned, that resolves itself into a question of ways and means, as we cannot reduce our expenditures, unless it be to a limited degree in our incidentals, and this from the fact that it costs really quite as much for operating in the way of furnishing all necessary free stationary, blanks, express, postage, etc., as it did years ago. The falling off in membership as a whole has not materially reduced the number of Posts. It costs us quite as much to supply blanks, etc., to a Post of ten members as it does for one of a hundred or more. In my mind the prime question at this time is one of more income, but just how to accomplish that result I leave for the encampment's discretion. The National Per Capita Tax of three and one-half cents per year from each member in good standing is very small indeed, in fact much lower than any other similar organization, and in the minds of many Comrades could be increased to five cents per year without being a burden upon any one. Some of our Departments collect a Per Capita Tax from the Posts of twenty cents per year, and it does seem that all might pay one and one-half cents per year additional toward maintaining our National Organization, and do so without any increase of Post dues. This slight advance would add about \$2,500.00 yearly to our available resources. If in the wisdom of the National Encampment it is not thought advisable to increase the Per Capita Tax, I suggest that the Trustees be authorized by resolution of the Forty-sixth National Encampment to pay over to the general fund the accrued interest from the permanent funds, in such sums, and at such times, as it may be called for by the Quartermaster-General when properly approved by the Commander-in-Chief. The adoption of either one or both of the above suggestions would be beneficial to the future administrations.

The balance on hand in the Southern Memorial Fund was not sufficient to meet the requirements for 1912, therefore an appeal was sent out in February, and we are pleased to say the response was prompt and generous from our auxilliary organizations, but I regret to say contributions from the Posts were very limited. I wish to extend sincere thanks to the Woman's Relief Corps, and especially to Mrs. Cora M. Davis, National President, for their quick and generous donation amounting to \$1,673.60.

Our stock of supplies on hand at this time is ample, including gunmetal used in making our badges and buttons. Early in the present session of Congress the Commander-in-Chief had a joint resolution offered asking for two captured bronze cannon, which was acted on quickly and the guns are now in our possession.

In closing this report, I wish to express my deep enjoyment for the honor conferred upon me, and my profound appreciation of the courtesy and consideration extended by the Commander-in-Chief and you, his Adjutant-General, and also for the uniform aid and co-operation of all other officials.

I have tried faithfully to perform every duty in a manner to reflect creditably on the administration, and the reward is sufficient if I win its approval.

With great respect, I am,

Fraternally yours,

COLA D. R. STOWITS,  
*Quartermaster-General, G. A. R.*

### SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT.

BUFFALO, N. Y., September 1, 1911.

Transcript from the books August 10 to 31, 1911.

Cash balance in all funds, as reported to the Forty-fifth National Encampment .....		\$ 6,929.18
Subsequent receipts—		
Sale of Supplies.....	\$ 77.27	
Per Capita Tax.....	33.65	
Sons of Veterans.....	500.00	
Daughters of Veterans.....	250.00	
Woman's Relief Corps.....	4,000.00	
		<u>4,860.92</u>
Total .....		\$11,790.10
Disbursements—		
Transferred to the Permanent Fund.....	\$6,534.37	
Van Sant Testimonial.....	500.00	
Court of Inquiry, Additional.....	11.00	
Traveling, Executive Committee.....	390.75	
Traveling, E. B. Stillings, Adjutant-General.....	108.84	
For Reports and Rolls.....	876.00	
For General Expense.....	514.94	
		<u>8,935.90</u>
Total Cash on Hand.....		\$ 2,854.20
To be credited as follows:		
General Fund .....	\$1,856.28	
Southern Memorial Fund .....	997.92	
		<u>\$ 2,854.20</u>

C. D. R. STOWITS,  
*Quartermaster-General, G. A. R.*



## ACCOUNT CURRENT.

## DEBIT.

Cash received for term ending August 10, 1912.

General Fund .....	\$1,856.28	
Southern Memorial Fund.....	997.92	
		\$ 2,854.20
Sale of Supplies.....	\$3,933.16	
Per Capita Tax.....	6,413.13	
Southern Memorial Fund.....	2,243.04	
Los Angeles Committee.....	500.00	
Note Discounted .....	971.74	
Refunds .....	16.30	
Interest Bank Balance.....	56.72	
		<u>14,134.09</u>
Total .....		\$16,988.29

## CREDIT.

Cash paid out term ending August 10, 1912.

For Supplies.....	\$2,492.83	
Traveling .....	2,976.94	
Salaries .....	2,500.00	
General Expense .....	4,580.05	
Southern Memorial Fund.....	1,300.00	
		<u>\$13,849.82</u>
Total in hand in all funds.....		\$ 3,138.47
To be credited as follows—		
General Fund .....	\$1,197.51	
Southern Memorial Fund.....	1,940.96	
		<u>\$ 3,138.47</u>

## ASSETS.

Cash General Fund.....	\$ 1,197.51
Cash Southern Memorial Fund.....	1,940.96
Supplies on Hand.....	885.84
Gun Metal .....	321.07
Lithograph Stone .....	20.00
Total .....	<u>\$4,365.38</u>

## BILLS PAYABLE.

Note due November 1, 1912..... \$ 1,000.00

(Los Angeles Citizens' Committee contributed \$500.00 toward the traveling expenses of our Executive Sub-Committee attending the meeting of arrangements, January, 1912.)

## SALE OF SUPPLIES FOR TERM ENDING AUGUST 10, 1912.

<i>Departments.</i>	<i>Amount.</i>
Alabama .....	\$ 2.00
Arizona .....	10.30
Arkansas .....	12.99
California and Nevada.....	247.69
Colorado and Wyoming.....	45.09
Connecticut .....	52.80
Delaware .....	5.89
Florida .....	26.65
Georgia and South Carolina.....	10.96
Idaho .....	17.05
Illinois .....	180.89
Indiana .....	128.73
Iowa .....	91.75
Kansas .....	87.83
Kentucky .....	7.95
Louisiana and Mississippi.....	30.70
Maine .....	46.74
Maryland .....	24.75
Massachusetts .....	197.13
Michigan .....	66.12
Minnesota .....	68.50
Missouri .....	69.46
Montana .....	3.95
Nebraska .....	64.29
New Hampshire .....	56.18
New Jersey .....	72.10
New Mexico .....	3.08
New York .....	471.50
North Dakota .....	3.82
Ohio .....	278.95
Oklahoma .....	23.99
Oregon .....	28.20
Pennsylvania .....	267.78
Potomac .....	21.85
Rhode Island .....	30.42
South Dakota .....	21.30
Tennessee .....	29.68
Texas .....	13.45
Utah .....	12.40
Vermont .....	49.17
Virginia and North Carolina.....	2.65
Washington and Alaska.....	107.81
West Virginia .....	14.25
Wisconsin .....	107.62
Woman's Relief Corps.....	3.75
Waste Paper .....	8.00
Aides-de-Camp .....	805.00
Total.....	3,933.16

PER CAPITA TAX, SOUTHERN MEMORIAL FUND, INTEREST,  
ETC., RECEIVED FOR TERM ENDING AUGUST 10, 1912.

Departments.	Dec. 31, 1911	June 30, 1912	So. Memo. Fund	General Fund
Alabama .....	\$ 1.68	\$ 2.02		
Arizona .....	2.05	2.14		
Arkansas .....	7.61	5.67		
California and Nevada.....	105.77	103.39		
Colorado and Wyoming.....	40.25	38.85		
Connecticut .....	54.13	51.89		
Delaware .....	8.56	7.91	\$ 15.00	
Florida .....	9.57	10.96		
Georgia and South Carolina.....	4.97	4.60		
Idaho .....	8.84	8.85		
Illinois .....	268.85	261.40	2.00	
Indiana .....	213.81	207.69	5.00	
Iowa .....	162.51	161.71	2.00	
Kansas .....	178.54			
Kentucky .....	26.32	17.46		
Louisiana and Mississippi.....	13.62	13.13		
Maine .....	73.26	69.42		
Maryland .....	29.95	28.93		
Massachusetts .....	209.39	203.09	10.00	
Michigan .....	152.38	148.32	18.50	
Minnesota .....	70.95	68.53	90.00	
Missouri .....	103.48	98.70		
Montana .....	7.42	7.05		
Nebraska .....	67.03	69.72		
New Hampshire .....	35.32	34.19		
New Jersey .....	63.97	62.36	8.00	
New Mexico .....	3.01	2.90		
New York .....	360.21	346.26	28.00	
North Dakota.....	3.01	5.60		
Ohio .....	360.52	309.23	55.00	
Oklahoma .....	33.41	26.44		
Oregon .....	34.00	34.64	18.00	
Pennsylvania .....	337.71	327.86	2.00	
Potomac .....	28.70	27.74		
Rhode Island.....	22.45	22.09	25.00	
South Dakota.....	18.41	14.12		
Tennessee .....	20.88	14.79		
Texas .....	7.56	7.35		
Utah .....	5.62	5.08		
Vermont .....	39.82	38.25	3.00	
Virginia and North Carolina.....	8.25	6.72		
Washington and Alaska.....	64.66	49.70		
West Virginia.....	18.72			
Wisconsin .....	106.90	92.31	7.00	
Ladies of the G. A. R.....			221.94	
Daughters of Veterans.....			59.00	
Woman's Relief Corps.....			1,673.60	
Note Discounted.....				\$ 971.74
Los Angeles Committee.....				500.00
Refunds.....				16.30
Interest .....				56.72
Totals .....	\$3,394.07	\$3,019.06	\$2,243.04	\$1,544.76



TOTAL NUMBER OF POSTS, MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE DEPARTMENTS OF THE  
GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC

JANUARY 1, 1912.

Compiled by Cola D. R. Stowits, Quartermaster-General, G. A. R.

DEPARTMENTS	Total Posts	Members	Value of Real Estate	Cash Post and Relief	Furnishings Etc.	Total Value of Property
Alabama.....	5	96	\$ 260.00	\$ 130.57	\$ 37.00	\$ 427.57
Arizona.....	5	117	1,200.00	562.44	120.00	1,882.44
Arkansas.....	25	435	450.00	546.83	274.00	1,270.83
California and Nevada.....	104	6,044	6,774.73	32,963.90	6,447.97	46,186.60
Colorado and Wyoming.....	61	2,300	10,000.00	11,530.23	5,000.00	26,530.23
Connecticut.....	61	3,093	61,783.00	61,678.69	23,871.00	147,332.69
Delaware.....	19	489	.....	1,691.22	2,336.50	4,027.72
Florida.....	23	547	3,280.00	437.67	1,746.00	5,463.67
Georgia and South Carolina.....	10	284	675.00	456.35	257.20	1,388.55
Idaho.....	19	505	8,673.00	701.40	1,301.06	10,675.46
Illinois.....	475	15,363	57,913.34	28,903.26	28,222.49	115,039.09
Indiana.....	347	12,218	11,924.76	85,898.75	25,101.96	122,925.47
Iowa.....	337	9,286	39,250.40	30,443.91	3,780.50	73,474.81
Kansas.....	268	9,914	37,763.17	5,752.57	15,142.99	58,658.73
Kentucky.....	90	1,504	1,200.00	1,936.20	1,170.00	4,306.20
Louisiana and Mississippi.....	38	777	5,500.00	1,683.70	1,444.47	8,628.17
Maine.....	145	4,186	25,301.14	59,767.00	17,928.70	102,996.84
Maryland.....	56	1,711	4,216.00	10,916.55	5,863.76	20,996.31
Massachusetts.....	209	11,965	142,875.00	210,215.57	3,500.00	356,590.57
Michigan.....	286	8,707	37,839.34	13,045.91	34,101.88	84,987.13

Minnesota.....	158	4,054	23,737.89	8,348.73	11,413.53	43,500.15
Missouri.....	225	5,913	12,104.00	34,322.45	9,388.75	55,915.20
Montana.....	16	424	481.50	1,458.66	784.75	2,724.91
Nebraska.....	177	3,830	32,849.00	21,391.55	12,742.00	66,982.55
New Hampshire.....	78	2,018	29,691.71	26,850.43	18,832.38	75,374.52
New Jersey.....	107	3,655	69,056.00	50,163.21	37,812.56	157,031.77
New Mexico.....	11	172	.....	349.25	294.72	643.96
New York.....	585	20,583	.....	138,778.44	67,289.27	206,067.71
North Dakota.....	10	172	200.00	1,450.48	1,464.40	3,114.88
Ohio.....	524	19,354	67,378.47	52,323.54	57,873.30	177,575.31
Oklahoma.....	66	1,498	.....	614.19	6,842.43	7,456.62
Oregon.....	61	1,942	5,205.00	11,255.77	2,035.30	18,496.07
Pennsylvania.....	521	19,298	28,118.89	350,370.00	26,500.00	404,988.89
Potomac.....	15	1,640	3,600.00	9,898.09	3,545.82	17,043.91
Rhode Island.....	24	1,283	1,400.00	18,164.50	10,896.31	30,460.81
South Dakota.....	63	1,052	.....	956.81	10,851.24	11,808.05
Tennessee.....	39	1,193	1,421.50	740.23	350.10	2,511.83
Texas.....	20	432	350.00	248.84	589.00	1,187.84
Utah.....	6	321	150.00	366.25	416.75	933.00
Vermont.....	89	2,271	8,575.00	11,324.56	8,455.70	28,355.26
Virginia and North Carolina.....	32	471	.....	86.86	674.80	761.66
Washington and Alaska.....	88	3,046	18,315.00	6,328.23	6,650.75	31,293.98
West Virginia.....	35	1,074	.....	1,940.03	2,313.07	4,253.10
Wisconsin.....	207	6,109	21,861.94	16,282.05	25,434.14	63,578.13
Aggregate.....	5,740	191,346	\$781,374.78	\$1,323,275.86	\$501,098.55	\$2,605,749.19

ABSTRACT OF EXPENDITURES MADE BY C. D. R. STOWITS, QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL, G. A. R.,  
FOR TERM ENDING AUGUST 10, 1912.

Date of Pay- ments.	Voucher No.	To Whom Paid.	For What Purpose.	Supplies.	Traveling.	Salaries.	Expense.	Southern Memorial Fund.
1911								
Sept. 19	1	Bennett & Co.....	Reporting 45th National Encamp.....	.....	.....	.....	\$ 200.00	.....
" 26	2	Globe Wernicke Co.....	Office Supplies for A. G.....	.....	.....	.....	17.20	.....
" 27	3	American Surety Co.....	Bond Adjutant-General.....	.....	.....	.....	2.50	.....
" 27	4	Clara A. Davis, Sten., A. G.....	Bond Quartermaster-General.....	.....	.....	.....	12.50	.....
" 29	5	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.....	Salary for September.....	.....	.....	\$ 50.00	.....	.....
" 29	6	C. D. R. Stowits, Q. M. G.....	Salary for September.....	.....	.....	100.00	.....	.....
Oct. 11	7	Geo. E. Brown & Co.....	Office Expense, September.....	.....	.....	.....	5.00	.....
" 11	8	J. P. Lippincott & Co.....	Printing General Orders, etc.....	.....	.....	.....	23.17	.....
" 11	9	Jos. K. Davison's Sons.....	Binding Blue Book.....	\$ 37.50	.....	.....	34.83	.....
" 11	10	Geo. E. Brown & Co.....	Badges and Buttons.....	360.30	.....	.....	.....	.....
" 26	11	Cameron-Amberg Co.....	Printing General Orders, etc.....	.....	.....	.....	72.50	.....
" 26	12	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.....	Stationery for Adjutant-General.....	.....	.....	.....	11.15	.....
" 26	13	Clara A. Davis, Sten., A. G.....	Salary for October.....	.....	.....	100.00	.....	.....
" 26	14	Geo. E. Brown & Co.....	Office Expense, October.....	.....	.....	.....	9.05	.....
" 31	15	C. D. R. Stowits, Q. M. G.....	Salary for October.....	.....	.....	50.00	.....	.....
" 31	16	Town Printing Co.....	Printing Gen. Orders, Blanks, etc.....	.....	.....	.....	170.74	.....
Nov. 10	17	Town Printing Co.....	Salary for September and October.....	.....	.....	66.66	.....	.....
" 10	18	Jos. K. Davison's Sons.....	Office Expense, October.....	200.00	.....	.....	7.92	.....
" 15	19	H. U. Bailey.....	Service Books (2000).....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
" 20	20	H. M. Trimble, C-in-C.....	Forms and Letter Heads.....	.....	.....	.....	261.00	.....
" 30	21	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.....	Rank Straps.....	22.50	.....	.....	.....	.....
			Stamped Env. for Com.-in-Chief.....	.....	.....	.....	9.58	.....
			Traveling Expense.....	.....	200.00	.....	.....	.....
			Salary for November.....	.....	.....	100.00	.....	.....
			Expense, November.....	.....	.....	.....	105.89	.....



ABSTRACT OF EXPENDITURES—Continued.

Date of Pay-ments.	Voucher No.	To Whom Paid.	For What Purpose.	Supplies.	Traveling.	Salaries.	Expense.	Southern Memorial Fund.
Nov. 30	22	Clara A. Davis, Sten., A. G.	Salary for November			50.00		
" 30	23	Cameron, Amberg & Co.	Mailing Tubes, etc.				11.95	
" 30	24	C. D. R. Stowits, Q. M. G.	Expense for November				8.25	
" 30	25	J. Henry Holcomb	Salary for Sept., Oct. and Nov.			75.00		
Dec. 6	26	Jos. K. Davison's Sons.	Expense for October and November				64.30	
" 22	27	Washington Gardner	Badges, Buttons, etc.	248.08				
" 22	28	H. M. Trimble, C-in-C.	Expense, Dec. 12-13, Pension Com.		42.65			
" 26	29	Henry S. Redman	Traveling Expense		71.71			
" 26	30	Ell. Torrence	Trav. Exp., Dec. 13-15, Pen. Com.		34.60			
" 30	31	C. D. E. Stowits, Q. M. G.	Trav. Exp., Dec. 10 to 18, Pen. Com.		92.80			
" 30	32	Geo. E. Brown & Co.	Salary for November and December			66.67		
" 30	33	Clara A. Davis, Sten., A. G.	Office Expense				6.95	
" 30	34	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.	Printing General Orders, etc.				174.34	
" 30	35	John E. Gilman	Salary for December			50.00		
1912	1	E. B. Stillings	Salary for December			100.00		
Jan. 29	36	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.	Expense for December				35.52	
" 29	37	H. M. Trimble, C-in-C.	Trav. Exp., Dec. 13-14, Pen. Com.		35.40			
" 29	38	Ell. Torrence	Sundry Expenses, Send'g Out Badges				95.94	
" 31	39	Clara A. Davis, Sten., A. G.	Trip to Cal., Ore., Wash., Mont., Utah and Colo., Jan. 5 to 22.					
" 31	40	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.	Traveling Expense		251.35			
" 31	41	L. W. Collins, Ex. Com.	Expense Pension Com., Jan., 1912		241.70			
" 31	42	Washington Gardner	Salary for January		53.38			
" 31	43	C. D. R. Stowits, Q. M. G.	Salary for January			50.00		
" 31	44	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.	Expense for January			100.00		
" 31	45	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.	Trip to Los Angeles, Jan. 4 to 17.		176.50		17.55	
" 31	46	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.	Expense Pension Com., Jan. 20-22.		35.56			
" 31	47	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.	Trip to Los Angeles, Jan. 4 to 27.		218.45			

ABSTRACT OF EXPENDITURES—Continued.

Date of Pay-ments.	Voucher No.	To Whom Paid.	For What Purpose.	Supplies.	Traveling.	Salaries.	Expense.	Southern Memorial Fund.
Jan. 31	45	H. S. Redman.....	Expense Pension Com., Jan. 20-22..	.....	40.20	.....	.....	.....
Feb. 26	46	E. B. Stillings.....	Trip to Los Angeles, Jan. 4 to 27..	.....	222.90	.....	.....	.....
" 26	47	Jos. K. Davison's Sons.....	Badges, Buttons, etc.....	465.00	.....	.....	.....	.....
" 26	48	Wm. H. Haskins.....	Descriptive Books.....	101.60	.....	.....	.....	.....
" 29	49	Void.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
" 29	50	Clara A. Davis, Sten., A. G.....	Salary for February.....	.....	.....	50.00	.....	.....
" 29	51	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.....	Salary for February.....	.....	.....	100.00	.....	.....
" 29	52	E. B. Stillings.....	Expense for February.....	.....	.....	.....	10.18	.....
" 29	53	Cameron-Amberg Co.....	Editing Journal, Postage, etc.....	.....	.....	.....	218.75	.....
" 29	54	Griffith-Stillings Press.....	Office Supplies for A. G.....	.....	.....	.....	5.45	.....
" 29	55	Griffith-Stillings Press.....	Acct. Print. 1,500 Jour. 45th Encamp.	.....	.....	.....	500.00	.....
" 29	56	Griffith-Stillings Press.....	Acct. Print. 1,500 Jour. 45th Encamp.	.....	.....	.....	500.00	.....
" 29	57	C. D. R. Stowits, Q. M. G.....	Acct. Print. 1,500 Jour. 45th Encamp.	.....	.....	.....	449.50	.....
" 29	58	Geo. E. Brown & Co.....	Salary for January and February..	.....	.....	66.67	.....	.....
Mar. 11	59	Town Printing Co.....	Expense for January and February..	.....	.....	.....	16.25	.....
" 22	60	J. Henry Holcomb.....	General Orders, etc.....	.....	.....	.....	178.29	.....
" 22	61	C. D. R. Stowits, Q. M. G.....	Application Blanks.....	.....	.....	.....	60.61	.....
" 22	62	H. A. Axline.....	Salary for Dec., Jan. and Feb.....	.....	.....	75.00	.....	.....
" 22	63	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.....	Expense for Jan., Feb. and March..	.....	.....	.....	54.26	.....
" 22	64	H. M. Trimble, C-in-C.....	Trip to Dayton Home.....	.....	29.85	.....	.....	.....
" 23	65	Round Truman Co.....	Trip to Dayton Home.....	.....	8.20	.....	.....	.....
" 29	66	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.....	Trip to Dayton Home.....	.....	31.25	.....	.....	.....
" 29	67	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.....	Traveling Expense.....	.....	350.00	.....	.....	.....
" 29	68	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.....	Engrossing, etc.....	.....	.....	.....	14.66	.....
" 29	69	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.....	Salary for March.....	.....	.....	100.00	.....	.....
" 29	70	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.....	Expense for March.....	.....	.....	.....	16.08	.....
April 24	71	Chicago Safe & Mdse. Co.....	Salary for March.....	.....	.....	50.00	.....	.....
" 24	72	Chicago Safe & Mdse. Co.....	Filing Case for A. G.....	.....	.....	.....	12.50	.....

ABSTRACT OF EXPENDITURES—Continued.

Date of Pay- ments.	Voucher No.	To Whom Paid.	For What Purpose.	Supplies.	Traveling.	Salaries.	Expense.	Southern Memorial Fund.
April 24	69	Geo. E. Brown & Co.....	Printing and Sending General Order No. 6 (9,500 copies).....	.....	.....	.....	174.88	.....
" 24	70	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.....	Trip to Boston, Balti. & Wash'ton..	.....	79.20	.....	.....	.....
" 30	71	Clara A. Davis, Sten., A. G.....	Salary for April.....	.....	.....	50.00	.....	.....
" 30	72	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.....	Salary for April.....	.....	.....	100.00	.....	.....
May 6	73	C. D. R. Stowits, Q. M. G.....	Expense for April.....	.....	.....	.....	55.48	.....
" 8	74	W. O. Kretsinger.....	Salary for March and April.....	.....	.....	66.66	.....	.....
" 8	75	R. J. Maxson.....	Expense for March and April.....	.....	.....	.....	15.75	.....
" 8	76	Chas. C. Chapin.....	Dept. Com. Texas, for Memo. Day.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	30.00
" 8	77	Wm. P. Lynch.....	Dept. Com. Ark., for Memo. Day.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	70.00
" 8	78	E. K. Russ.....	Dept. Com. Ala., for Memo. Day.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50.00
" 8	79	Chas. H. Haber.....	Dept. Com. Fla., for Memo. Day.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	50.00
" 8	80	F. A. Jones.....	Dept. Com. Louisiana and Missis- sippi, for Memorial Day.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	150.00
" 8	81	Chas. H. Flournoy.....	Dept. Com. Virginia and North Car- olina, for Memorial Day.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	400.00
" 13	82	Jos. K. Davidson's Sons.....	Dept. Com. Georgia and South Caro- lina, for Memorial Day.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	300.00
" 13	83	Town Printing Co.....	Dept. Com. Tenn., for Memo. Day.....	216.45	.....	.....	.....	150.00
" 31	84	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.....	Badges, Buttons, etc.....	.....	.....	.....	16.00	.....
" 31	85	Clara A. Davis, Sten., A. G.....	Letter Heads, etc.....	125.00	.....	.....	.....	.....
June 5	86	Geo. E. Brown & Co.....	Rules and Regulations.....	.....	.....	100.00	.....	.....
" 5	87	Jos. K. Davidson's Sons.....	Salary for May.....	.....	.....	50.00	4.40	.....
" 5	88	J. H. Holcomb.....	Expense for May.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
" 5	89	J. H. Holcomb.....	Salary for May.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
" 5	90	J. H. Holcomb.....	General Orders, etc.....	.....	.....	.....	103.50	.....
" 5	91	J. H. Holcomb.....	Badges and Buttons.....	225.00	.....	.....	.....	.....
" 5	92	J. H. Holcomb.....	Salary for March, April and May.....	.....	.....	75.00	.....	.....
" 5	93	J. H. Holcomb.....	Expense for March, April and May.....	.....	.....	.....	27.91	.....



# ABSTRACT OF EXPENDITURES—Continued.

Date of Payment.	Voucher No.	To Whom Paid.	For What Purpose.	Supplies.	Traveling.	Salaries.	Expense.	Southern Memorial Fund.
1912.								
June 5	89	Chas. H. Haber.....	Dept. Com. Virginia and North Carolina, for Memorial Day.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	100.00
" 17	90	Ell Torrence.....	Pen. Com., Washington, D. C., April. Pack. & Ship. Journals 45th Encamp. Conference with C-in-C. in Chicago. Salary for June.....	.....	104.15	.....	.....	.....
" 19	91	Griffith-Stillings Press.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	157.42	.....
" 29	92	Wm. H. Armstrong.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15.50	.....
" 30	93	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.....	Expense for June.....	.....	.....	100.00	.....	.....
" 30	94	Clara A. Davis, Sten., A. G.....	Salary for June.....	.....	.....	50.00	.....	.....
July 5	95	C. D. R. Stowits.....	Salary for May and June.....	.....	.....	66.66	.....	.....
" 8	96	Griffith-Stillings Press.....	Expense for May and June.....	.....	.....	.....	14.50	.....
" 12	97	John B. Lewis, N. P. I.....	Electrotypes and Binding.....	.....	.....	.....	40.50	.....
" 29	98	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.....	Expense Printing, Postage, etc. Salary for July.....	.....	.....	100.00	250.57	.....
" 29	99	Clara A. Davis, Sten., A. G.....	Expense for July.....	.....	.....	.....	16.07	.....
Aug. 5	100	Geo. E. Brown & Co.....	Salary for July.....	.....	.....	50.00	.....	.....
" 5	101	J. Henry Holcomb, A.Q.M.G.....	General Orders, Blanks, Packing and Shipping.....	.....	.....	.....	166.15	.....
" 5	102	Town Printing Co.....	Salary for balance of term.....	.....	.....	75.00	.....	.....
" 5	103	H. U. Bailey.....	Expense for balance of term. Letter Heads, etc.....	.....	.....	.....	47.71	.....
" 10	104	C. D. R. Stowits, Q. M. G.....	Stamped Envelopes.....	.....	.....	.....	36.00	.....
" 10	105	Clara A. Davis, Sten., A. G.....	Salary for July and August.....	.....	.....	66.68	8.10	.....
" 10	106	Chas. R. E. Koch, A. G.....	Expense for July and August.....	.....	.....	.....	27.50	.....
" 10	107	H. M. Trimble, C-in-C.....	Salary for balance of term.....	.....	.....	50.00	.....	.....
" 10	108	Jos. K. Davison's Sons.....	Salary for balance of term. Traveling Expense.....	.....	657.09	100.00	.....	.....
			Badges, Buttons, etc.....	491.40	.....	.....	.....	.....
				\$2,492.83	\$2,976.94	\$2,500.00	\$4,580.05	\$1,300.00

SUPPLIES ON HAND, PURCHASED, ISSUED, AND REMAINING ON HAND, FOR THE TERM ENDING AUGUST 1, 1912,  
BY C. D. R. STOWITS, QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL.

	Rules and regulations.	Rituals, sets.	Officers' cards.	Service books.	Odes.	Applications.	Leaves of absence.	Transfers.	Discharges.	Post Charters.	Descriptive books.	Blue books.	Badges.	Rank straps.	Buttons.	Strap ribbon, pieces.	Electrotypes.	Cost.
On hand August 1, 1911.....	2,402	343	2,604	21	1,870	6,250	1,385	3,861	2,111	112	12	199	878	1,747	93	78	87	\$1,237.15
Purchased as per abstract.....	5,000	....	1,000	2,000	....	10,000	2,500	....	....	....	254	250	3,608	1,494	18,000	....	....	2,538.83
Total to be accounted for.....	7,402	343	3,604	2,021	1,870	16,250	3,885	3,861	2,111	112	266	449	4,486	3,241	18,093	78	87	3,775.98
Issued.....	3,152	251	967	881	150	9,100	2,140	2,934	390	30	56	209	3,937	2,414	16,929	38	26	4,010.43
Balance on hand August 1, 1912.....	4,250	92	2,637	1,140	1,720	7,150	1,740	927	1,721	82	210	150	549	827	1,164	40	61	885.84

SUPPLIES PURCHASED BY C. D. R. STOWITS, QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL, FOR THE TERM ENDING  
AUGUST, 1, 1912.

FROM WHOM PURCHASED.	Date purchased.	Rules and Regulations.	Officers' Cards.	Service Books	Applications.	Leaves of absence.	Descriptive Books.	Blue Books.	Badges.	Rank Straps.	Buttons.	Cost.
J. K. Davison's Sons.....	1911 Sept.										4,000	\$360.30
J. B. Lippincott Co.....	"						250		500	225		*37.50
Town Printing Co.....	Oct.			2,000								200.00
J. K. Davison's Sons.....	"											22.50
J. K. Davison's Sons.....	Nov.								408	300	2,000	248.08
J. K. Davison's Sons.....	Jan.								1,000	100	4,000	465.00
W. H. Hoskins Co.....	"						254					101.60
Town Printing Co.....	Feb.			10,000		2,500						40.00
Town Printing Co.....	Apr.	5,000										125.00
J. K. Davison's Sons.....	"								200	443	2,000	216.45
J. K. Davison's Sons.....	May								500		2,000	225.00
J. K. Davison's Sons.....	July								1,000	276	4,000	491.40
Town Printing Co.....	"		1,000									6.00
Total.....		5,000	1,000	2,000	10,000	2,500	254	250	3,608	1,494	18,000	\$2,538.83

\* Binding only.

## REPORT OF THE CUSTODIAN.

INDEPENDENCE HALL, PHILADELPHIA, PA., August 1, 1912.

CHARLES R. E. KOCH, *Adjutant-General, Chicago, Ills.*

*Comrade:* I have the honor to submit my 17th Annual Report as Custodian of the Grand Army of the Republic, as follows:

The care and custody of the archives of the Grand Army in this building, and the purchasing and shipping of various blanks and supplies required in all the Departments, have occupied my time for the past twelve months, and everything, so far as I know, has been satisfactory to all concerned.

The use of the suite of rooms occupied for this purpose for the past sixteen years has been generously given to us by the Department of Pennsylvania, together with heat, light and janitor service, without any charge whatever, for which I desire to make acknowledgement to them.

The purchase and sale of supplies of Departments has been attended to by me under the direction of the Quartermaster-General, a full account of which will appear in his report.

The almost complete files of Department Journals, dating back to the organization of these Departments, are now in the book-cases here, and ought to be bound in book form, and I therefore ask favorable consideration of an appropriation of \$100.00 for that purpose.

I have sent out to the various Departments the following blanks, which were furnished free of charge, viz:

26,238	Form A & B
136	" C (in detail)
155	" C (consolidated)
143	" D
122	" E-2
2,891	" H
431	" I
5,623	Report of Post Chaplain.
130	" " Department Chaplain.
6,313	" " Patriotic Instructor (Post)
99	" " " " (Dept)
144	Credentials of Members.

I acknowledge with thanks the courtesies extended to me by National Headquarters, and have many pleasant memories connected with my intercourse with the various Departments, not only during the past year, but in the sixteen years preceding it.

Yours fraternally in F. C. and L.,

J. HENRY HOLCOMB,

*A. Q. M. G. and Custodian.*



## REPORT OF JUDGE ADVOCATE-GENERAL.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., July 31, 1912.

CHARLES R. E. KOCH, *Adjutant-General, G. A. R.*

*My Dear Comrade:* I have the honor to submit herewith for the use of the Commander-in-Chief and the Forty-sixth National Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic my report as Judge Advocate-General for the past year.

There have been submitted to me but seven formal cases upon which formal opinions were called for. I attach hereto as a part of this report copies of the opinions that I have given.

Opinions Nos. 1, 2, 4 and 5 are self-explanatory and need no further comment or elucidation.

Opinion No. 3 is of and concerning a vexed and vexing matter and it seems not inappropriate to make a fuller and more extended reference to it by reason of the action that has been heretofore taken at the Forty-fourth and Forty-fifth National Encampments, the importance of the question, and the interest that has been taken in it not only in the Department of California and Nevada but by two at least of its Department Commanders, two Commanders-in-Chief and two National Encampments,

1. From the Report of the Judge Advocate-General presented to the Forty-fourth National Encampment at Atlantic City (Journal pages 113 to 117), and accompanying documents (pages 117 to 128) it appears that Department Commander Merrill held that May was not eligible to admission as a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, which was reversed by his successor, Commander Daubenspeck, on the report of a Court of Inquiry, from which an appeal was taken to the Commander-in-Chief, who referred the matter to the then Judge Advocate-General, who in his opinion reported that May had been mustered into the service between April 12, 1861, and April 9, 1865, had been honorably discharged and was consequently eligible to membership.

2. The Report of the Judge Advocate-General was referred to a committee of three, the majority of which reported (Journal page 274),

"First, we recommend concurrence and approval of the findings, conclusions and recommendations in the case of Comrade Richard R. May of Sheridan-Dix Post No. 7, San Jose, California."

And the action of the committee in its entirety was approved by the Encampment (J. p. 277).

3. The matter came up again at the Forty-fifth National Encampment,

on the report of the then Judge Advocate-General, in which in "III." (p. 156 to 160), after considering carefully the situation and question, the Judge Advocate-General concludes (J. p. 159-160):

"It is my opinion and I so advise you that Richard R. May, either as a member of the Mechanic Fusileers or as a member of Co. F, 56th Ills. Vol. Infantry, is not eligible to membership in the Grand Army of the Republic for the reason that he never rendered any military service, which fact is shown by the best evidence obtainable, viz., the records of the War Department as well as by his own admissions."

The highest, and therefore the best evidence of the record of one claiming to have been a soldier is contained in the records of the War Department. From the certificate of the Adjutant-General of the United States quoted in the Judge Advocate-General's report (J. P. 158) it appears that—

"The Mechanic Fusileers were enlisted upon the unauthorized promises, that they would receive more than the usual compensation and were to perform only a special kind of service as skilled laborers, etc." \* \* \*

"Upon learning of the deception practiced in their enlistments they became dissatisfied and refused to be mustered."

Whereupon it was ordered by the War Department that they should be mustered in and out at the same time, and this was done,

"without their having been armed or equipped or having performed any military service whatever."

Company F, to which May claimed to belong, was mustered in and out of the service on the same day, February 1, 1862, and the record does not disclose that May was absent at the time, but,

"On the contrary, the records show that he was mustered in and out as a private of Company F of that Regiment February 1, 1862."

This certificate by the Adjutant-General of the United States presents two phases of the question—

a. That he was *not* present with his company at the time of its muster in and muster out.

b. That he *was* present at that time; upon which two phases I beg to remark that if he was not present, he never was mustered into the service at all—in which case of course he could not be eligible to admission into this organization, and if he were present then he was only mustered in for the purpose of being mustered out in order to relieve from the embarrassment arising from an unauthorized attempt to enlist soldiers who were not to be soldiers but mere mechanics under special pay, which the Government not only did not approve or ratify, but on the contrary repudiated, and the muster in and out was only a technical method of getting rid of an unauthorized enlistment, and this by no means meets the requirements for admission to this splendid organization.

4. The requirements for admission to the Grand Army of the Republic are neither indefinite or uncertain.

"Soldiers \* \* of the United States Army \* \*, who served between April 12, 1861, and April 9, 1865, in the war for the suppression of the Rebellion \* \*, and having been honorably discharged therefrom AFTER SUCH SERVICE shall be eligible to membership in the Grand Army of the Republic."—Blue Book Chap. 1, Art. 4, p. 20.

It will thus be seen that to entitle one to membership the applicant must have *served* as a soldier in the United States Army \* \* \* between April 12, 1861, and April 9, 1865, in the War for the Suppression of the Rebellion, and must have been honorably discharged therefrom *after such service*.

5. I have known of various kinds of soldiers who have been admitted or desired to be admitted to the ranks of the Grand Army—three year men, two year men, one year, nine months, six months, one hundred days, ninety days, sixty days and thirty days; Morgan Raid men, Squirrel Hunters and Minute Men—but this is the first instance that has ever come under my observation where a mere “wash-entry” soldier, without a service or a record other than that of being mustered in and out at the same moment of time, in order to relieve from the situation growing out of an unauthorized act of an unauthorized agent, has seriously insisted on his eligibility or his insistence has been recognized.

Judge Advocate-General Hopkins concludes his opinion, and in my opinion properly so, that, in view of the action theretofore taken,

“it is not in your power as Commander-in-Chief to reverse the decision of the National Encampment or to order that the name of Richard R. May be dropped from the Rolls of the Grand Army.

As to the power of a National Encampment to reconsider the action of a former Encampment in a case like this and to reopen and further consider the case, I am of the opinion that any succeeding Encampment has the power to do so, if a majority desires.”

The report of the committee on the report of the Judge Advocate-General fully approved the report of the Judge Advocate-General (J. p. 235-6), and its action, and consequently the report of the Judge Advocate-General, was approved by the Encampment when it adopted the report of the committee.

6. The May case was in this situation when my opinion was asked and given as indicated.

I concluded and reported and am still of the opinion—

a. That it was not in the power of the Commander-in-Chief to reverse the action of the Forty-fourth Encampment, and this notwithstanding the fact that I was clearly of the opinion that May was never eligible to admission and that the action in admitting him ought to be receded from if possible.

b. That the Forty-fifth Encampment did not attempt to revise, review or set aside the action of the Forty-fourth Encampment, but simply laid down a rule, the correctness of which cannot, as I think, be successfully disputed or denied.

c. That had it attempted to do so its action would have been nugatory inasmuch as it does not appear that May was heard or had an opportunity to be heard as to his rights.

7. The May case, as it appears to me, then stands as follows:

a. May was admitted as a member of the Grand Army of the Republic by his Post, and his right to admission was confirmed by his Department Commander and the Department of California and Nevada, and their actions were confirmed by Commander-in-Chief Van Sant and the Forty-fourth National Encampment.



b. The action by Commander-in-Chief Gilman, his Judge Advocate-General and the Forty-fifth Encampment did not—and could not in the absence of May or notice to him—have the effect of depriving May of his membership in the order, but simply established the proposition that in fact and in law he was not and never had been eligible to membership in the Grand Army, and that his admission was in error and contrary to rules and regulations.

c. There was and is no power in the present Commander-in-Chief to deprive May of his membership.

d. The only method by which May can be deprived of his membership in the Grand Army is by action of a National Encampment, in which the action of the Forty-fourth Encampment shall be brought up for consideration and action, and this only when May has had notice and an opportunity to be heard to protect and defend his alleged rights.

In my opinion a motion to rescind or review the action of the Forty-fourth National Encampment and to declare that May was never eligible for admission to the Grand Army and that his admission be rescinded and that the Department of California and Nevada be notified of such action and directed to notify Sheridan-Dix Post thereof, will properly present the question; provided, however, May shall have notice and full opportunity to be heard on such matter.

8. It is a serious matter to deprive one entitled to wear it of the right to wear

“the little bronze button” that speaks of great deeds greatly done in the past century, but to entitle one to wear it he must have done something to justify it and an “in and out” muster without having been armed or equipped or having performed any military service whatever,”

in my opinion, not only does not constitute such justification, but conclusively shows that the party has not done that which entitles him to admission into our ranks.

9. I have examined with care the official reports of the Adjutant-General of Illinois, covering the history of the various regiments of that State engaged in the War of the Rebellion. In them there is not the slightest reference to the “Mechanic Fusileers” or of Mr. R. R. May as a member of Company F, Fifty-sixth Illinois, of which he claims to have been a member and from which he claims to have been honorably discharged, but the name of “R. R. May” is conspicuous only by its absence from the roll of Company F, Fifty-sixth Illinois, and the “Wilson”

“who undertook to raise the ‘Mechanic Fusileers’ nowhere appears in the history of the Fifty-sixth Illinois, nor anywhere else as commanding a regiment to be known as ‘Mechanic Fusileers’.”

10. While it might possibly be true that some credit should be given to one who was willing to serve at increased pay in a regiment that was never to shoot at anybody or be shot at by anybody, there should have been some overt act, participated in by the Government of the United States, in addition to his intention, and when it is remembered that following 1861, there were many and urgent calls upon the good citizens of the country in 1862,



1863, 1864 and 1865 to assist in rescuing an imperiled country, all of which, so far as R. R. May is concerned, seem to have fallen on unhearing ears, and he was content with the record of an "in and out" fusileer, I cannot think that any hardship or injustice will be done him by canceling his admission to this order.

I have dwelt upon this matter at far greater length than was perhaps necessary or even permissible. My excuse is that the case is one that ought to be put clearly before the Encampment so that whatever it does or leaves undone, it may do advisedly and that I may not hereafter be subjected to the reproach of permitting its members to act, or not act, in the dark.

After I had supposed that my work for the year was completed and I had about finished the preparation of my report, I was required to open the record in order to examine into the condition in the Department of Georgia and South Carolina over the imbroglio between the Posts at Atlanta and Fitzgerald, upon which I sent in opinions 6 and 6a, and the specially disheartening controversy existing in the Department of Colorado and Wyoming between the two Posts at Grand Junction, Colorado. While I was compelled to recommend that the appeal of Grand Junction Post No. 35 be not sustained, I did so with much hesitation and reluctance, being strongly impressed with the idea that Post No. 35 had not been fairly or courteously treated by its rival, and that the talisman of our beloved organization, F., C. and L.—Fraternity to our Comrades, Charity for the mistakes of others, if there were mistakes, and Loyalty to the organization and one another—was conspicuous only by its absence.

In my opinion No. 7 I have gone so fully into the matter that I could hardly be excused for adding anything further in this report.

I cannot forbear, in closing this report, to express to you my sincere appreciation of the many courtesies extended to me by yourself and the Commander-in-Chief during the past year.

I have by the Commander's thoughtfulness been relieved of many duties and responsibilities that might have been onerous not to say unpleasant, and where questions have been passed to me for answer they have been accompanied with such thoughtful and considerate suggestions as to materially lighten my labor and make it a pleasure rather than a trouble to answer them.

I shall always carry the associations of the past year close to my heart and be proud of them.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, in F. C. and L.,

Your obedient servant,

WILLIAM A. KETCHAM,  
*Judge Advocate-General, Grand Army of the Republic.*

## OPINION NO. 1.

MATTER OF APPEAL OF GRAND JUNCTION POST NO. 35, DEPARTMENT OF COLORADO  
AND WYOMING.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., September 27, 1911.

HARVEY M. TRIMBLE, *Commander-in-Chief, Grand Army of the Republic,*  
31 West Lake Street, Chicago, Ill.

*My Dear Commander:* I have examined with care the files and papers submitted to me in the matter of the appeal of Grand Junction Post No. 35, Department of Colorado and Wyoming, from the order of the Department Commander declining to take jurisdiction of the petition for annulment of the charter of Sheridan Post No. 18, of the same Department, for the reason that the matter had been decided by his predecessor.

The files are not in entirely satisfactory condition, but I think they are sufficiently so to enable me to reach a conclusion. Having examined them with some care, I beg to report:

1. That it affirmatively appears that Department Commander McDonald and his council of administration did not undertake to pass upon the question of the annulment of the charter of Post No. 18, as asked for, for lack of time.

2. That Department Commander McDonald being a member of Post No. 35 was disqualified by reason thereof from taking jurisdiction of the application for annulment of the charter, if he had attempted to do so, which I think the record discloses he did not.

3. That the petition for annulment of the charter was properly passed to Department Commander Sapp for his action, and that of his council of administration.

4. That the seating of the delegates of Post No. 18 in the Thirty-second Encampment of the Department did not constitute an adjudication of the petition for the annulment of the charter of such Post.

5. That Department Commander Sapp and his council of administration having declined to exercise jurisdiction under an erroneous conception of the situation, the papers should be returned to him for proper action upon the petition for annulment after timely notice shall have been given to Post No. 18.

I therefore report and recommend that the appeal of Post No. 35 be sustained, and the matter be returned to the Department Commander with instructions to him and his council of administration to take jurisdiction of the proceedings to annul; to give notice, as required, to Post No. 18, and upon such notice and hearing determine the question whether the complaint of Post No. 35 for annulment of the charter of Post No. 18 is well founded, all of which is respectfully submitted, together with the original papers sent me.

## OPINION NO. 2.

RE TRUSTEES' PERMANENT FUND.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., November 8, 1911.

HARVEY M. TRIMBLE, *Commander-in-Chief, G. A. R., Princeton, Ill.*

*My Dear Commander:* Answering the questions submitted to me with reference to the status of trustees of the Permanent Fund, I have the honor to report:

1. That in my opinion their several terms expire as follows: (a) that

of Comrade Bakewell in 1912, (b) that of Comrade Wagner in 1913, and (c) that of Comrade Brown in 1914.

2. The alleged election of Comrade Price at the Forty-third National Encampment was invalid, he at the time not being eligible to fill the place.

3. When Bakewell was elected at the Forty-fourth Annual Encampment in 1910 it was to fill a vacancy occasioned by the failure to elect a proper officer to succeed him in 1909. Wagner's election at the same Encampment being to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Comrade Gobin, which had been temporarily filled by the appointment of Wagner. Brown having been elected originally in 1908 to serve for the three years, his term expired in 1911, and being elected this year at Rochester his term will expire in 1914 as above.

4. In my opinion the Commander-in-Chief was not authorized by rules and regulations to appoint a custodian or confer upon any Comrade designated as custodian any authority whatsoever. The control of this Permanent Fund is with the trustees. (Sec. 2, Art. 8, Chap. 4, Rules and Regulations, Blue Book, page 81.) Any attempt by the Commander-in-Chief or even by the Encampment to attempt to control through a custodian or otherwise this Permanent Fund, being in violation of the rules and regulations, *supra*, could have no other effect except possibly to embarrass the rights of the Encampment in the bond given by the trustees as an attempted change in the relations of the parties. The bond is given to secure the safe conduct of the fund by the trustees, not by a custodian or any other officer. The only possible limitation over the control by the trustees of this fund is contained in Section 3, which provides for the place of deposit, "the same to be selected by the trustees, with the approval of the Commander-in-Chief."

5. The theory of Section 4 of Article 8, Chapter 4, is that the bond to be given shall be a joint bond for all the trustees. There is no indication that an individual bond is authorized or acceptable. And this would seem to require that whenever there was a change in the personnel of the board a new bond covering the action of the new board shall be executed.

6. In Section 1 of Article 8 it is provided for the election of the three trustees, "one member to be elected for one year, etc. \* \* \* and thereafter one trustee shall be elected annually to serve for three years." It is further provided, "in the event of a vacancy \* \* \* the Commander-in-Chief is empowered and directed to appoint a Comrade \* \* \* to serve until the next session, \* \* \* when one shall be elected to fill the remainder of the term."

The National Encampment of the Grand Army is rather a peculiar body—I might say extra-legal. It is not a corporation—although I think it ought to be—or joint stock company, and it would be difficult and probably improper to call it a partnership. It is, however, an entity and is governed by fixed rules. Chapter IV. of Rules and Regulations is devoted to the "National Encampment." Article 8 is an integral portion thereof. While Section 1 speaks of "Member" and "Comrade," I am persuaded that the word is used with reference to the subject matter of the chapter, namely, "A Member, a Comrade of the National Encampment." It is obviously of the highest importance that the National Encampment should, subject of course to rules and regulations, until and as they are amended, have control of these officers. If a Member or a Comrade of the Grand Army, not a permanent member of the National Encampment, was intended by the use of the language in Section 1, I think it should have been made clearly to appear, and not having been so made clearly to appear, it must be presumed that it was the intention when the matter first was up in the Forty-first National Encampment in 1907, when the first trustees were elected, and subsequently in 1908, when the amendment to the rules and regulations was adopted, September 4, Journal 255-6-6a-8, in the Forty-second National Encampment, that the Encampment intended to keep control of these trustees by having as trustees only permanent members, and when the first three trustees were



elected they were composed of three Comrades permanently members of the National Encampment. And this would constitute a contemporaneous construction by the Encampment as to what its purpose was. Subsequently when action was purported to be taken in reference to Comrade Price he was neither a permanent member of the National Encampment nor even a delegate, and his supposed election was illegal, although no question apparently was made of it at the time. When, however, in the Forty-fourth National Encampment, Bakewell and Wagner were elected trustees on the 22d and 23d of September, respectively, it was obviously the sense of the Encampment that the action that had theretofore been taken with reference to Comrade Price was irregular, as otherwise they were making provisions for four trustees, which is not to be supposed. In arriving at this conclusion I have examined the Journal of the Forty-first Encampment, pages 86 to 88, 242 to 248, 309 and 310, 312 and 313, and the Forty-second Encampment at pages 205 to 207, 255 to 258, 279, 285 and 286 and 297; of the Forty-third Encampment, pages 172, 183 to 185, and 222; of the Forty-fourth Encampment, pages 58 and 59, 265, 273, 277, 239 and 381. And also the Blue Book for 1910, pages 78, 80, 81 and 82, being Section 4 of Article 6, Article 7 and Article 8 of Chapter 4, together with the heading of the chapter.

7. As I am of the opinion that Comrade Price was not eligible to be voted for by the Encampment as a trustee, I am of the opinion that he is not eligible to be appointed as the successor of Comrade Bakewell, if Comrade Bakewell should or has resigned.

### OPINION NO. 3.

RE STATUS OF RICHARD R. MAY, OF SHERIDAN-DIX POST, DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA AND NEVADA.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., December 7, 1911.

HARVEY M. TRIMBLE, *Commander-in-Chief, G. A. R., Princeton, Ill.*

*My Dear Comrade:* I have the honor to submit the following suggestions with respect to the above matter, namely:

(a) The report of the Judge Advocate General to the Forty-fourth National Encampment as it appears at pages 113 and 152.

(b) The report of the committee thereon and the action of the Encampment as it appears at pages 273 to 277 of the proceedings of the Forty-fourth National Encampment.

(c) The excerpt from the report of Judge Advocate-General Hopkins as it will appear (I presume) at pages 73 to 77 of the proceedings of the Forty-fifth National Encampment.

(d) A transcript of the report of the committee on the Judge Advocate-General's report furnished me by the Adjutant-General as it will appear when the proceedings of the Forty-fifth National Encampment are reported, but at what point this report and the action of the Encampment thereon will appear, I am at present not advised.

2. From the records so supplied to me I am of the opinion—

(a) That May was never eligible to admission in the Grand Army and that the action had by the Department of California and Nevada and its approval by the Forty-fourth National Encampment of the Grand Army cannot in reason, having regard to the rules and regulations, be upheld, but that such action was taken in error and should be relieved from whenever, if ever, a proper case is presented.

(b) (1) That the Forty-fifth Encampment did not attempt to reconsider or reverse the action in that respect of the Forty-fourth Encampment.

(2) That the record as presented to me would not have justified such action if the Encampment had attempted to take it. (3) I am seriously in doubt



whether a succeeding Encampment has the right "to reconsider the action of the former Encampment," in the sense in which the power to reconsider is commonly used. I think the power to reconsider died with the dissolution of the preceding Encampment unless a motion to reconsider was made at that Encampment, and by it left undisposed of or referred to the next Encampment. (4) There must, however, in the nature of things always remain with any National Encampment the right to judge of the qualifications of its membership, and as a necessary incident to that consider the qualifications of the members of the Posts and the Departments seeking representation in the National Encampment, to the end that the delegates admitted should be without question rightfully entitled to their admission.

(c) That if it should be claimed that the action of the Forty-fifth National Encampment *ex proprio vigore* overturned the action of the Forty-fourth National Encampment, it could not be legally said to accomplish this result for the reason that so far as made known to me May was not a party to the proceedings pending before Commander-in-Chief Gilman, and by him referred to Judge Advocate-General Hopkins. And if that be the case May could not be deprived of his right to sit in a Post or in a Department Encampment, because quod the proceedings before Commander-in-Chief Gilman, the Judge Advocate-General, etc., of the Forty-fifth Encampment, May was neither heard nor afforded the opportunity to be heard, and no man can be deprived of a right, privilege or immunity without being heard or the opportunity to be heard.

While therefore I am fully convinced of the absolute accuracy of Judge Advocate-General Hopkins' opinion as to the right of May to membership in the Grand Army, and to participate as a Past Post Commander in the Department Encampment of California and Nevada, there is nothing in the proceedings of Commander-in-Chief Gilman, Judge Advocate-General Hopkins or the Forty-fifth National Encampment that overturns or destroys the right of May to be recognized as a Comrade as decided by the Forty-fourth Annual Encampment—certainly not until and unless in a direct proceedings the matter is submitted to some future Encampment, where May is heard or is afforded the opportunity to be heard.

#### OPINION NO. 4.

##### RE INCORPORATION.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., May 1, 1912.

HARVEY M. TRIMBLE, *Commander-in-Chief*, G. A. R., *Princeton, Ill.*

*My Dear Commander:* I have examined with some care the draft of a bill submitted to the Encampment at Rochester and by you submitted to me for my own recommendation.

I have also examined and considered with care the draft of a bill sent to me by Comrade McBride of this Department, who was a member of the committee on the incorporation measure at the Rochester Encampment.

Upon first examination I was not favorably impressed with the former measure, which I shall designate as the "Rassieur Bill." It seemed to me altogether too unwieldy and unnecessarily cumbersome, and I was at first favorably impressed with the draft of the bill submitted by Judge McBride on account of its simplicity, but after giving the matter careful consideration I have reached the conclusion that the form embraced in the "Rassieur Bill" is preferable, and I therefore beg to recommend its favorable consideration as the basis of what is to be submitted to the forthcoming National Encampment.

It is quite clear that with the great body of the membership and with a few of its leading and honored members, there is a decided opposition, if not

hostility, to any measure of incorporation, and but for the importance of having a legal status so that the Grand Army might, by appropriate proceedings in court, when necessary, enforce and maintain its property rights, I should be strongly inclined to advise against any measure of incorporation.

I do not think the Grand Army ought in any manner to endanger its separate independent existence, and I am inclined to the opinion that if provision is to be made for the incorporation of the Grand Army that at some time provision ought to be made for the incorporation of Departments and Posts, in the event they should desire to so incorporate, but, in my opinion, there should be no compulsion or requirement that any Post or Department should incorporate unless, upon full consideration, it should decide so to do.

The Grand Army of the Republic, either as a whole or in its integral parts, ought not, in my opinion, to commit itself unreservedly to a condition from which it cannot at any time that it may desire, withdraw.

With these matters in mind, I have taken the liberty to draft certain amendments and additions to the "Rassieur Bill" and to recommend that it be adopted as the basis of action on the subject of incorporation, if it shall be decided to incorporate, and that, in that connection, the amendments and additions which I have drafted and which I submit herewith, shall be considered by yourself, and that if it be decided by you whether they or any of them should be recommended to the National Encampment.

### OPINION NO. 5.

RE BALLOTING IN POSTS, ETC.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., July 8, 1912.

HARVEY M. TRIMBLE, *Commander-in-Chief, G. A. R., Princeton, Ill.*

*My Dear Commander:* I have your esteemed favor of the 3d, enclosing letter of Past Department Commander Frank O. Cole of June 16, desiring to know whether or not it is legal, after a Post has announced its vote on officers (but before the result of the vote is announced) to change its vote.

Answering same I beg to say that in my opinion—

1. The rules and regulations with respect to the election of officers, whether in Post, Department or National Encampment, as embodied in Chapter 2 (Blue Book, pp. 45 and 47), Chapter 3 (at p. 65), and Chapter 4 (at p. 76), being in *pari materia*, should be construed together so as to constitute a harmonious whole, governing each subdivision of the Grand Army of the Republic; Chapter 2 being with respect to Posts; Chapter 3, being with respect to Departments, and Chapter 4, being with respect to National Encampments.

2. Strictly speaking, except in case of unanimous consent, there can be no election in either subdivision of the G. A. R. but by ballot—Sec. 2, Art. 7, Chap. 2, p. 47 (for Posts); Sec. 1, Art. 5, Chap. 3, p. 65, for Department Encampments; Sec. 1, Art. 5, Chap. 4, p. 76, for National Encampments.

3. In case the election is by ballot there could be, properly speaking, no change permitted, for it cannot be definitely and precisely known how the original ballot was cast, and as the purpose of a ballot is permitted and authorized secrecy, and as there is no provision for a change of ballot after it has once been cast, it should, in my opinion, be required to stand as cast until another ballot is taken where opportunity may be afforded to the individual in case of a Post, or the delegate in case of an Encampment, whether Department or National, to reconsider and cast his ballot as he may desire.

4. It is provided by Sec. 1, Art. 7, Chap. 2, in case of Posts that a ballot may "be dispensed with by unanimous consent." I am of the opinion

that by reference in the provisions in regard to Department and National Encampments to Post proceedings, the provision in regard to dispensing with a ballot by unanimous consent are carried forward and embodied into the provisions for elections at Department and National Encampments, and that therefore if the Encampment, whether National or Department, shall, by unanimous consent, decide to proceed with an election otherwise than by a strict ballot, it is at liberty to do so, but upon objection there is no process of election of officers authorized except by ballot.

5. When a ballot has been dispensed with by unanimous consent, it is within the power of Post, Department or National Encampments to adopt another method for the election of its officers.

I think it is not unusual in a Department or National Encampment to have the vote taken by Posts or Districts in a Department, and by Departments in a National Encampment, and a ballot having been dispensed with by unanimous consent, I see no objection to this method of taking and announcing votes, and if before the vote has been announced, a Post, District or Department shall see fit to change its vote, I see no legal objection to such action, unless, before the voting has begun a rule has been adopted prohibiting a change after the vote has been once announced; otherwise, if a rule prohibiting it has been adopted governing the election.

NOTE: The references above are made to Blue Book of 1910.

## OPINION NO. 6.

RE. APPEAL OF O. M. MITCHELL, POST NO. 1, DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA AND SOUTH CAROLINA, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., July 11, 1912.

HARVEY M. TRIMBLE, *Commander-in-Chief, G. A. R., Princeton, Ill.*

*My Dear Commander:* I have examined with care the paper dated July 1, 1912, purporting to be a protest and appeal from the action of the Department Commander of Georgia and South Carolina, submitted to me by you, and beg to say thereon:

1. In my opinion you have no jurisdiction of the appeal, and for that reason the appeal should be dismissed.

In the "Appendix Appeals," Art. 7, Chap. 3, p. 113, Blue Book, 1910, it is provided: "Appeals from the acts of a Department Commander, as distinguished from the appeals from his decision in appealed cases, must be taken to the Department Encampment and from the Department Encampment to the Commander-in-Chief."

This appeal should have gone in the first instance under this rule to the Department Encampment, and could only reach you by an appeal from the action of the Department Encampment.

It cannot be known but that if the appeal had been taken to the Department Encampment, the action complained of would have been satisfactorily settled within the Department without calling upon national officers to intervene.

2. When the Commander-in-Chief is without jurisdiction of an appeal an attempt to decide a case upon the merits would be futile and might produce complications that should, if possible, be avoided.



## OPINION 6A (SUPPLEMENTARY).

RE ATLANTA-FITZGERALD IMBROGLIO, DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA AND SOUTH CAROLINA.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., July 11, 1912.

HARVEY M. TRIMBLE, *Commander-in-Chief, G. A. R., Princeton, Ill.*

*My Dear Commander:* I have heretofore submitted a brief opinion on the above appeal, recommending its dismissal for want of jurisdiction.

Without in any wise receding from that opinion, in view of the fact that there is quite a serious condition presented by the papers submitted and that a rigid technicality might seem to be offensive to the parties who claim and seem to have a grievance, I beg to submit the following as a supplement to the original opinion:

1. The place of meeting of the Department Encampment in 1912 was changed from Fitzgerald to Atlanta by the council of administration for apparently good and sufficient reasons, as disclosed by the Department Commander's address, and was ratified by the Encampment.

2. Between the lines it would appear that there is and has been some friction between Atlanta and Fitzgerald, which is greatly to be deplored. From the Journal of the Forty-fifth National Encampment, pages 15 and 16, it appears that the officers, delegates and Post Department Commanders still living are apportioned as follows:

Beyond State Lines.....	3
Miscellaneous .....	3
From Tallapoosa .....	3
From Atlanta .....	6
From Fitzgerald .....	8
Total.....	23

Of whom six are from Atlanta and eight from Fitzgerald. The new Department Commander was from Fitzgerald, and he had designated as his A. A. G. and his A. Q. M. G. an Atlanta Comrade, who with the other officers was installed by the Commander-in-Chief.

3. Following the recommendation of the Forty-fifth National Encampment, the Department adopted a resolution—

(a) Establishing permanent headquarters at Atlanta at such place as the Department Commander and the council of administration may determine. (Note: It does not appear that the Department Commander and the council of administration had designated the particular location.)

(b) That a competent and faithful A. A. G. be continued in office from year to year. (Note: It appears that the then A. A. G., Kimball, was not continued in office, and it does not appear that he was not competent and faithful.

4. It does appear—

(a) From the statement of the committee and Post (page 2) that "it was distinctly understood between him (the Department Commander) and members of O. M. Mitchell Post, whose votes insured his election, that \* \* \* Leavitt \* \* \* was to be appointed, \* \* \* and in pursuance of this understanding he was appointed, etc."

(b) From the letter of Mattison to Brooks (ex. 7) that Brooks was "elected by the unanimous vote of the encampment."

(c) From the letter of Brooks to Mattison (ex. 6) that he thought he "was forced to appoint my (his) A. A. G. in Atlanta."

(d) That from some time prior to June 26 (presumably before June 15) Leavitt was absent from the State on account of sickness in his family, and had not returned by July 1, and that as early as June 6 the Department



Commander had removed Leavitt as A. A. G. and had appointed Comrade Whitman of Fitzgerald as his A. A. G. and A. Q. M. G. (Ex. 2.)

This he had the right to do (Sec. 1, Art. 6, Chap. 3, Blue Book, p. 66) unless there was something in the circumstances attending his election that in good morals forbade his so doing—which I doubt.

5. It is evident that it was the opinion of Post No. 1 that the removal of Leavitt and the appointment of Whitman in his stead and the attempted removal of headquarters from Atlanta, was a breach of faith on the part of the Department Commander of the understanding upon which he was elected that justified resistance to his orders and the compulsory retention of the office and the A. A. G. and A. Q. M. G. at Atlanta, leaving to Fitzgerald the empty honor of having in its midst the Department Commander.

Upon the above and foregoing I am of the opinion and so report to you—

1. That the action of the council of administration in removing the Encampment from Fitzgerald to Atlanta was authorized and legal.

2. That the action of the Encampment in directing the establishment of permanent headquarters at Atlanta was legally binding and continues until some future Department Encampment shall decide otherwise, and that the effort of the Department Commander to remove headquarters from Atlanta, notwithstanding the resolution of the Encampment, was void and of no effect. (Sec. 2, Art. 1, Chap. 3, p. 58, and note p. 64.)

3. That the removal of Leavitt and the appointment of Whitman as A. A. G. and A. Q. M. G. was valid and effective, and the latter is the de jure and defacto officer of the Department. (Sec. 1, Art. 6, Chap. 3, p. 66.)

4. If you are of the opinion that you have jurisdiction of this appeal it should be—

(a) Sustained as to the attempted removal of headquarters from Atlanta to Fitzgerald.

(b) Dismissed as to the incumbency of the A. A. G. and A. Q. M. G.

#### OPINION NO. 7.

[In the matter of the appeal of Grand Junction Post No. 35, Department of Colorado and Wyoming, from the order of the Department Commander, the Department council of administration and the Department of Colorado and Wyoming, refusing to annul the charter of Sheridan Post No. 18 of the same Department.]

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., July 31, 1912.

HARVEY M. TRIMBLE, *Commander-in-Chief, G. A. R.*

*My Dear Commander:* I have given considerable care to the mass of papers sent me in connection with the above appeal; some of them relevant, some of them not very illuminating, and some of them, *e. g.*, the communication from General Sickles in regard to a Mary Todd Memorial Fund, in no wise connected with the case:

The reasons assigned for the appeal are as follows:

1. Refusal to order testimony taken at Grand Junction and ordering the trial at Denver.

2. In ruling out much of the evidence offered by the Appellant.

3. The decision is (a) against the weight of the evidence and (b) contrary to the rules etc., of the Grand Army.

4. The decision is against the weight of the evidence in certain respects more specifically set forth.

5. In admitting immaterial evidence.

6. In not giving sufficient consideration to the evidence.

7. That no notice was given and no appeal from the decision of the Council of Administration to the Department Encampment.

8. If the organization of Post No. 18 is allowed to stand it subverts discipline, ignores fraternity, encourages rebellion and if generally practiced would destroy all respect for the organization.

#### IN GENERAL.

From an inspection of the papers that appear to me to be relevant to the controversy between the two posts I beg to say in the outset that they show a most deplorable and discreditable situation and relationship between the comrades of the two posts, with no sufficient excuse or palliation therefor; that in the nature of things must constitute a reproach, among all good citizens conversant with the situation, on the Grand Army of the Republic itself and this without much reference to who are in the right, who in the wrong or whether they are all or some of them partly right and partly wrong.

To give an intelligent opinion on this long drawn out quarrel—I hardly like to dignify it by calling it a controversy—it seems to me to be necessary to ascertain its beginning and the merits or demerits thereof.

1. So far as disclosed to me it began with the election of a Senior Vice-Department Commander at the encampment held at Grand Junction, Colorado, on the 12th, 13th, 14th of May, 1910.

In accordance with a well recognized custom of the Grand Army, a custom which I may be permitted to say in passing would be far "more honored in the breach than in the observance," there were three names presented to the encampment for this position, each of course from Grand Junction, where the encampment was being entertained and where at that time there was but one Post existing, No. 35.

2. It seems to have been the view of two at least of the candidates for the place, that as the position was to be filled from that Post, the comrades of that Post should be permitted to make the selection. The Encampment, however, held otherwise and by a large majority selected Comrade W. H. McDonald over the others over which there seems to have been immediate and bitter dissatisfaction.

There seems to be nothing in the papers submitted to me to account for this bitterness of feeling and opposition unless it be the feeling that it should have been settled by the voice of the Post, which seems to have been expressed at a scantily attended meeting and of the legality of which grave doubts seem to have been entertained, but I find among the papers submitted no satisfactory explanation or statement of this fact,

3. It would appear from some of the statements submitted that upon the announcement of the result of the ballot one of the unsuccessful candidates conducted himself in a very extraordinary manner, going to the extreme of discarding his button and announcing himself as done with the Grand Army in the presence of the Encampment itself.

4. At a meeting of the Post held on the day of the adjournment of the Encampment, the action of the Encampment in selecting its Senior Vice-Department Commander appears to have been the subject of acrimonious and bitter criticism by a number of the comrades, and the Senior Vice-Department Commander Elect and the retiring Department Commander present visiting seemed to be unable to stem the torrent, and practically all of the officers of the Post, including the Patriotic Instructor but excepting the Chaplain and Officer of the Day, gave notice of their resignation to take effect at the next regular meeting of the Post.

5. At the next regular meeting held May 28, all of the officers who had given notice of their intention to resign were present occupying their positions except the Surgeon and the Officer of the Day. After the transaction of other business the sum of \$100.00 was donated to the Woman's Relief Corps. This sum or an equal sum was immediately upon the organization of Sheridan Post, returned or paid over by the Woman's

Relief Corps to the newly organized Post. Thereafter all the officers except the Chaplain tendered their resignations, which were accepted, and 39 of the comrades called for and were granted transfer cards. It is not stated how many were present at this meeting, but it is reasonably apparent that these constituted practically all the comrades then present and if the question to be considered was whether or not this was a combination or conspiracy to wreck Post No. 35, the internal evidence would go very far toward sustaining the charge.

6. As the result of this hegira it would seem that the withdrawing members carried off all the Post property, including the moneys on hand, which were only recovered through proceedings in the civil courts, notwithstanding explicit orders by the Department Commander to the resigned officers to turn over to Post No. 35 the property in their hands—if not custody.

7. In September a charter was granted to Post No. 18 and its officers were installed by the Department Commander—since deceased. To these installation proceedings the comrades and officers of Post No. 35 were not invited and some at least of the comrades who sought to attend were prevented from so doing, and the situation between the Posts and the comrades of each became acute and strained.

8. At some time subsequent to the death of Department Commander Ferguson—elected in 1910—and after Senior Vice-Commander McDonald had succeeded by his death to the position of Department Commander, Grand Junction Post No. 35 presented to him a communication or request in the nature of a petition for the revocation or annulment of the charter of Post No. 18 on the ground, among others, that it had been obtained,

- a. Through fraud,
- b. Illegally.

This apparently accompanied or was accompanied by a protest against the seating of the Delegates from Post No. 18, in the Encampment held in 1911 at Salida. The delegates from that Post were, however, seated in that Encampment and it was supposed by some of the parties and officers, perhaps, that that disposed of the petition by the Grand Junction Post No. 35 for the annulment of the charter of Post No. 18.

9. Upon retiring from office, Department Commander McDonald turned over the papers connected with the petition for annulment of the charter to his successor, Department Commander Sapp, who declined to take jurisdiction, claiming, as I understand, that it had been disposed of by Department Commander McDonald and the Department Encampment held in 1911 at Salida in seating the delegates from Post No. 18 in the Department Encampment.

10. From this action Grand Junction Post No. 35 appealed to Commander-in-Chief Gilman who, without passing upon the questions presented, turned the papers over to yourself for action.

11. By your Special Order No. 4, issued February 4, 1912, to which I beg leave to refer and by reference make it a part of this opinion as though it had been set out at length, but for the purpose of brevity do not set it out, you sustained the appeal of Grand Junction Post No. 35 and remanded the case with instructions to Department Commander Sapp and his Council of Administration to take jurisdiction of the proceedings to revoke or annul the charter of Post No. 18, and "after giving due and timely notice \* \* \* to grant to said Grand Junction Post No. 35 a full and complete hearing upon its petition, etc." \* \* \* "and to determine whether or not the complaint and petition \* \* \* is well founded, and after such hearing make such order in said matter as right and justice shall require."

12. In compliance with this order, Department Commander fixed the 10th day of May, 1912, and Denver, Colorado, as the time and place for such hearing.

13. Owing to the great distance from Grand Junction to Denver (450



miles) and the inability of the Post to compel the attendance of witnesses at Denver, Grand Junction Post No. 35 filed a formal request with the Department Commander for the appointment of a commission or court of inquiry to take the testimony of some 14 comrades residing in Grand Junction, one comrade residing in Durango and three witnesses, not comrades, two of whom resided in Grand Junction and one resided at Colobran, but this request was denied, the Department Commander being of the opinion that he had no power to do so, and the hearing was held at Denver, May 10, pursuant to notice, and upon such hearing the petition for the revocation or annulment of the charter of Post No. 18 was denied with the result that this appeal has been taken and submitted to me.

#### OPINION.

Upon the above and foregoing and the papers submitted, I am of the opinion and therefore advise you that the appeal should be overruled and beg to briefly state my reasons therefor.

1. As to the refusal to order testimony taken at Grand Junction and ordering the trial at Grand Junction, I know of no provision for issuing a commission to take evidence, and while it might have been highly desirable to have the oral statement of the witnesses in or near Grand Junction it would have been difficult if not impossible to procure the attendance of the Council of Administration at Grand Junction, and where there was so much bad blood between the contending individuals it might have been a matter of doubtful wisdom to attempt a hearing among such surroundings. At any rate I am not prepared to say that the Department Commander and Council of Administration abused their discretion in this matter.

As to points 2 to 6 inclusive I have not been furnished with a sufficiently authentic and accurate statement of the evidence to justify me in holding that proper evidence was ruled out or improper evidence admitted or that the evidence was not sufficiently considered or that it is against the weight of the evidence.

While it is true that in voluntary organizations as this, officers should not be hypercritical or astute in disregarding plain matters, it is certain that in so momentous a matter as the life of a Post the case should be clear, definite and certain before that step should be taken.

As to point 7 I am of the opinion that as it was the duty of the Department Commander and Council of Administration to give a hearing and reach a result; it was their duty, having given the hearing and having reached a result, to report the same to the next ensuing Department Encampment and all parties in interest were bound to take notice of that fact.

As to No. 8 I am of the opinion that under Chapter II, Sec. 1. Art. 1, and notes, Blue Book for 1910, page 27, it was the duty of Department Commander Ferguson to issue a charter and proceed accordingly—unless, he was advised that there were not ten members among the applicants eligible to the Grand Army, and while there may be a strong presumption arising from the minutes of Post No. 35 of May 28 that there were many, if not all, of those who called for their transfers as a part of a conspiracy to disrupt and destroy Post No. 35, it does not affirmatively appear that they all actively participated in that design, nor that there were not "ten righteous Lots" in the list of those to whom the charter was granted.

In announcing this conclusion I do not wish to even seem to be approving the acts that appear to have been done by many of the comrades of Post No. 18 and possibly with the tacit approval or acquiescence of the Post itself. Many things have been done, or seem to have been done, that merit the severest censure and disapprobation.

For the individuals it would seem that a court martial on account of their misconduct is merited and deserved and might perhaps have a wholesome effect, but to destroy the life of a Post and thus sever the relations

between the Grand Army and a number of its members, who should be worthy members and an honor to the organization, is more than I can bring my mind to the point of recommending on the papers that have been submitted, although I must say that I blush with shame when I think of many of the things that seem to have transpired in Grand Junction, and all, so far as I can see, without justification or excuse, and all apparently growing out of personal hostility to one man or the "vaulting ambition" of others who had too strong a hold on their friends.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, in F. C. and L.,

W. A. KETCHAM,  
*Judge Advocate-General.*

## REPORT OF INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

## ASSISTANT INSPECTORS-GENERAL.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Department</i>	<i>Address</i>
Henry M. Austin.....	Alabama .....	Birmingham, Ala.
James Wiley.....	Arizona .....	Globe, Arizona.
F. J. Gildersleve.....	Arkansas .....	Gentry, Arkansas.
Peter Mass.....	California and Nevada...	San Francisco, Cal.
William Butler.....	Colorado and Wyoming...	Longmont, Colorado.
Franklin Dart.....	Connecticut .....	Hartford, Connecticut.
William A. Reily.....	Delaware .....	Wilmington, Del.
Royal H. Robie.....	Florida .....	Palatka, Fla.
Charles H. Cox.....	Georgia and S. Carolina..	Atlanta, Ga.
Orlando S. Goff.....	Idaho .....	Boise, Idaho.
R. B. Chappell.....	Illinois .....	Chicago, Ill.
Webster B. Ray.....	Indiana .....	Madison, Indiana.
B. I. McQuinn.....	Iowa .....	Amelia, Iowa.
O. B. Fuller.....	Kansas .....	Kansas City, Kansas.
M. H. Davidson.....	Kentucky .....	Louisville, Ky.
Oscar Pilman.....	Louisiana and Mississippi..	New Orleans, La.
S. A. Nelke.....	Maine .....	Livermore Falls, Maine.
George W. Johnson...	Maryland .....	Baltimore, Md.
Hansel H. Bush.....	Massachusetts .....	Dorchester, Mass.
Albert Dunham.....	Michigan .....	Lansing, Michigan.
Charles H. Bennett....	Minnesota .....	Pipestone, Minnesota.
Louis C. Hesse.....	Missouri .....	St. Louis, Mo.
J. M. Page.....	Montana .....	Sheridan, Montana.
William J. Blystone...	Nebraska .....	Lincoln, Nebraska.
George E. Wood.....	New Hampshire .....	Concord, N. H.
Daniel Loder.....	New Jersey .....	Trenton, N. J.
	New Mexico .....	None appointed.
J. H. Everett.....	New York .....	Kingston, N. Y.
James M. O'Neal.....	North Dakota .....	Grand Falls, N. D.
T. M. Gugenheim.....	Ohio .....	Springfield, Ohio.
Geo. Kirchbaum.....	Oklahoma .....	Okumlee, Okla.
David H. Turner.....	Oregon .....	McMinnville, Oregon.
William T. Powell.....	Pennsylvania .....	Pittsburgh, Pa.
H. L. Deam.....	Potomac .....	Washington, D. C.
George H. Cheek.....	Rhode Island.....	Pawtucket, R. I.
E. M. Thomas.....	S. Dakota .....	Huron, S. D.
John Gray.....	Tennessee .....	Greenville, Tenn.
Dexter Wagner.....	Texas .....	Dennison, Texas.
John V. Nelson.....	Utah .....	City Hall, Ogden, Utah.
L. W. Fisher.....	Vermont .....	St. Johnsburg, Wash.
Edmund H. Rudolph...	Virginia and N. Carolina..	Soldiers' Home, Virginia.
H. R. Gale.....	Washington and Alaska...	Bremerton, Wash.
I. M. Adams.....	West Virginia .....	Ravenwood, W. Va.
Wm. H. Starkweather..	Wisconsin .....	Milwaukee, Wis.



Annual Report of John H. McClay, Inspector-General, G. A. R., For the Year Ending June 30, 1912.  
Consolidated from Reports of Assistant Inspector-General

### Consolidated from Reports of Assistant Inspector-General

[illegible]

[illegible]

Departments reporting organizations of Ladies of G. A. R. attached to Posts: Nebraska, 5; Vermont, 5; Wisconsin, 9; New York, 27; Colorado and Wyoming, 8.

Departments in which Assistant Inspectors-General report that inspection has been discontinued: California and Nevada, Colorado and Wyoming, Delaware, Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana and Mississippi, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, Ohio, Rhode Island and South Dakota (17).

Departments that do not comply with request for report: Alabama, Arizona, Colorado and Wyoming, Florida, Indiana, Maine, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Washington and Alaska (15).

#### DEPARTMENT OF NEBRASKA, SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT.

W. J. BLYSTONE, *Assistant Inspector-General*.

I have inspected the headquarters offices of this Department, located in the State House, by a special act of our legislature prepared by yourself, when a member of our legislature, and find everything in splendid condition, considering the very small amount of room assigned us. The office is kept open every business day in the year. The accounts and records are well kept. Comrade A. M. Trimble is always ready to welcome visiting comrades.

Under the direction of the Council of Administration, a record of every Comrade of this department is being prepared, who ever belonged to the Grand Army or who ever wore the Blue from 1861 to 1865, to be placed among the archives of our state for future reference. That record will be completed this year.

Attention is directed to the fact that the State of Nebraska has a statute directed against the desecration of the Flag, which has been held constitutional both by the Supreme Court of this State and by the United States Supreme Court.

This bill was introduced by yourself in the 1905 session of the legislature. The act is entitled "United States Flag," and found at 7915b, Sec. 241c, Compiled Statutes of Nebraska, 1907.

This is the only inspection of Posts in the Department during the past five years. The reports show that a large number of Posts are getting weak, but many are still strong, both numerically and financially, and will remain so for a number of years.

I am of the opinion that the inspection of the Posts, which of course gives comrades something to do, must certainly create additional interest, and I would recommend that Department Commanders be urged to order inspections every year, and for that reason.

#### DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN, SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT.

W. H. STARKWEATHER, *Assistant Inspector-General*.

I have inspected as many Posts as I possibly could, have written 150 personal letters to Post officers, of suggestion and encouragement, and



mailed to 69 Posts circular letters reminding them as to inspection, but, notwithstanding all my efforts, I have failed to receive inspection reports from 48 Posts in the Department. My consolidated report, therefore, is based on the 169 Posts inspected. Accounting for the membership of the delinquent Posts by the Official Roster for 1912, issued by the Assistant Adjutant-General, gives the total membership in the Department, as I have reported, a net loss of 248 during the year.

This loss could be changed to a gain, if veterans, not members of the Grand Army, would more fully appreciate their obligations, and be mustered into its ranks. Certainly, no consideration of station, religion, politics, or any other thing, should deter the man from doing so, who once "wore the Blue."

If inspection reports could be consolidated with the report of the Assistant Adjutant-General duplication would be avoided, discrepancies eliminated, and comrades relieved of unnecessary clerical work.

Considering the physical disability of the Grand Army Veterans, and the distances many of them in the country have to travel to Post Meetings, the attendance is remarkably good.

It demonstrates, as we are making the last "lap" in life, that the friendships formed in that great war are a cherished heritage, and the handshake and salutation binding us in still closer camaraderie.

The question, "What are the prospects of this Post?" bring many pathetic replies, but, even where but three or four can assemble, the same high resolve and fraternal spirit obtains, "and the determination to fight it out on this line":

"Soon there will be but an invalid corps

Of any army that numbered two million or more;

At last but a Company, then a Platoon,

A few stragglers left; then soon, oh, how soon

They will read this small item: The news came today

That the last Old Soldier has just passed away."

The following items may be of general interest: The membership in the "Sons of Veterans" has nearly doubled in the past year, with renewed interest "all along the line," and the members of great assistance on Memorial Day, and in the decoration of the graves of our comrades.

The State has for twenty-four years maintained, (with the annual appropriation from the Government,) a "Home" at Waupaca, for the aged comrades, and their wives, or widows, those who can establish a year's residence in Wisconsin. The present attendance is 387 men and 341 women, and the expenditure for 1911, \$153,000. Its affairs are administered by a Board, elected from the Ranks of the Grand Army of the Republic.

A Memorial Arch, erected by the State in memory of Camp Randall, at a cost of \$25,000, at the State Capital, Madison, was appropriately dedicated on June 18 and 19, last. Other monuments, and markers for the different camps of 61, have been, and are being erected.

For the first time, the Memorial Day exercises of May 30 last, at Milwaukee, the metropolis of the State, were in charge of a Citizens' Committee. This is to be made a permanent matter, and the custom established throughout the State, so that the Civil War veterans will now be relieved of this responsibility.

The majority of the Public Schools in the Department, were addressed by Comrades of the Grand Army at their last Memorial Day exercises, and in Milwaukee the scholars furnished the 5,000 flowering plants necessary for the decoration of the graves of our comrades, in the various cemeteries.

Respectfully submitted, in the Bonds of Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty.

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA, SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT.

PETER H. MASS, *Assistant Inspector-General.*

Enclosed you will please find report, as culled from the books of our most efficient Assistant Adjutant-General, Comrade R. C. O'Brien, on whose assistance I had to depend, to a very great extent, owing to the fact that inspections in this Department have been abolished for the last four years.

The amount stated in the report as having been expended for relief does not, however, comprise all the money so expended, as a great number of the Posts in this Department pay the vouchers drawn for the relief of their suffering Comrades and their dependents out of their General Fund, using their Relief Fund only for emergencies not provided for in the Rules and Regulations and in their By-Laws.

The Department is in a most prosperous condition, and is easily holding its own in membership, owing to the climatic advantage enjoyed by the Pacific Coast. Since our last most enjoyable Department Encampment at Stockton, April 8, 1912, two new Posts have been added to our Department: Roster, Robley D. Evans No. 200 of Los Angeles, and Richmond No. 201 of Richmond, and an application is now on file at Department Headquarters for permission to form another Post at Monrovia.

During the past year as in years gone by this Department has received the most generous assistance, both financially and at public celebrations, from our beloved Auxilliary, the Woman's Relief Corps, who are at all times ready to help us, and practically keep some of our smaller and poorer Posts in existence.

The Sons of Veterans under their present efficient and wide-awake Division Commander Scott are making rapid strides to the front in membership and influence and promises to be a great help to the G. A. R.

I appreciate to the fullest extent the incompleteness of the foregoing report. Yet I do not feel to apologize, but rather that I have done the best I could with the means at my command, and with the authority granted by the rules and regulations of the Order.

If I should presume to make recommendations in the premises, I would say, do not discontinue the Inspection Department, but rather amend the rules applicable thereto. Build it stronger by enactment of rules and regulations more in harmony with the present conditions.

Valuable suggestions are contained in supplemental reports by Assistant Inspectors-General included herein.

The Inspector-General's report can only be made valuable or interesting as the reports of his assistants reflect their loyalty, devotion and intelligence.

Courteously submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

J. H. McCLAY,  
*Inspector-General.*



## REPORT OF NATIONAL PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR.

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BOSTON, MASS., July 16, 1912.

CHARLES R. E. KOCH, *Adjutant-General, G. A. R.*

*Comrade:* Midsummer days remind me that Encampment time is drawing near, and an account of the year's activities along patriotic lines is in order. So quickly have the months sped by in their flight that, looking backward along their course, there seems to have been but limited opportunity for real achievement; yet I trust that some progress has been made, the sum total of which may redound to the credit of our order.

As in 1899, the appointment came to me unsought, a complete surprise; but because of previous experience it was less difficult to assume the duties of the office—in my opinion one of the most important.

Patriotic teaching is the only really constructive work we now have. While the Grand Army of the Republic will pass into history as a body of men who saved this nation from disruption, its last impress will be an effort to encourage a higher and finer type of citizenship in the land of their love and devotion.

While our time for this work is short, and the workers in our ranks are constantly diminishing in numbers, we are fortunate in having a faithful auxiliary, the Woman's Relief Corps, to whom, indeed, we are indebted for the recognition, in its incipency, of the importance of patriotic teaching. With the superior intuition of women they grasped the value and significance of the movement toward better citizenship, and actually blazed the way over which we are now traveling. We also have several allied societies—the Ladies of the G. A. R., the Sons of Veterans and their Auxiliary, and the Daughters of Veterans—all organized for the avowed purpose of assisting us.

With all these willing workers, many of them young and full of enthusiasm, why should patriotic instruction languish as long as there exists a need for molding crude alien and untaught material into sound American citizenship.

Realizing the extent of the field, and the number and quality of available workers, I have tried to plan upon broader lines, and to enlist all possible co-operation, including that of our friends who were once our foes, and whose responses have in most cases been cheering and hearty. Soon after my appointment I sent a letter to all Department Patriotic Instructors.

Enclosed with each copy of the letter was the following blank:

*Department Patriotic Instructor.*

*Comrade:* My hope is that there may be a law passed in every State in the Union making it obligatory upon school authorities to have the United States flag flying at or over every schoolhouse during school sessions; that the Educational Department shall make part of their curriculum a salute to the flag each day; that there shall be placed in every school a bronze tablet of Lincoln's Gettysburg address; that there shall be a Flag in every Sabbath school room, and at least on patriotic days there shall be a salute given to it.

1. When is the next meeting of your Legislature?

2. Have you a law on the statute books in regard to the flying of the United States flag from schoolhouses and public buildings?

3. If possible, will you send me a copy of the law?

4. That all Post Patriotic Instructors may have the same instructions as to their duty and rank, I will send to you for distribution as many copies of a small brochure giving detailed information, as there are Posts.

How many Posts are in your jurisdiction?

Please give such kindly criticisms and suggestions as shall be for the good of the order in your department, and return by early mail in enclosed stamped envelope.

Remarks:

Replies, while not always immediate, were eventually forthcoming, every Department Patriotic Instructor being heard from, and generally expressing interest and a desire for more knowledge of the work. I therefore prepared a little brochure, "Information for and Duties of Post Patriotic Instructors of the Grand Army of the Republic," to be supplied Posts throughout the order.

Included in the contents were "Information for Post Patriotic Instructors," "Duties," and other matter intended to be of assistance, including Flag etiquette, days when colors should be flown, and a copy of the laws of the State of Massachusetts relative to the display of the United States Flag over schoolhouses, the latter the best available model for a similar law in states where it does not now exist. There was also a print of a complete Flag as it now exists and will continue for many years to come. "Duties" were defined as follows:

1. To see that the United States Flag, of suitable official size, waves over or at every schoolhouse during the school session, weather permitting.

2. To see that the United States Flag flies over all Government buildings. To encourage Flag flying over private buildings.

3. To strive to have the salute to the flag as part of the curriculum of every grade of every public school.

4. To keep for reference a list of speakers, men believed to be capable and worthy of delivering patriotic addresses which shall be a credit to the Grand Army of the Republic; only such men being presented to give addresses to schools, churches, clubs, universities, colleges, Sunday schools, and all places where patriotic services are in order.

5. Not alone to encourage Grand Army optimism in the Patriotic Instructor's own Post, but to visit other Posts, Soldiers' Homes and other patriotic organizations with words of cheer.

6. To keep in touch by correspondence or otherwise with all patriotic societies. To ask and encourage religious bodies to observe with fitting words our national patriotic days, furnishing speakers if desired. To encourage all patriotic associations and churches to have a memorial service on the anniversary of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, April 14.

7. To strive in all proper ways to accentuate patriotic loyalty to Nation

and Flag, to the end that we shall have one non-sectional country of Glory and Liberty.

8. To encourage the study of American history, that all Americans may know how the privileges they enjoy were obtained and sustained.

9. To endeavor to have laws passed favorable to patriotism and for the good of our order.

10. To see that those outside of the Grand Army of the Republic who are entitled to membership have a pressing invitation to become members and supporters.

As the holiday season approached, with its inspiration and blessedness, another letter was sent out. Associated with the New Year came the thought of its possibilities for patriotic endeavor, which was duly emphasized.

A little later a reminder of the opportunities which February presents for patriotic lessons was issued. There is no time like the birthday of Abraham Lincoln to impress upon one's listeners the especial lesson which the soldiers of the '60s alone can teach. Interest in this day is increasing as time recedes, and the grandeur of that incomparable character is revealed in perspective. Especially to schools and churches do the lessons of that wonderful life appeal.

This year the day was observed as never before, our great leader being the theme of clergymen and orators as well as members of patriotic societies.

As Memorial Day approached, another letter was sent to Department Patriotic Instructors, accompanied by a request that a letter embodying the same thought should be sent Post Patriotic Instructors. This with no intention of intruding upon the sacred prerogatives of the National Chaplain, but because of a desire to call attention to every opportunity for patriotic demonstration.

In April, having formulated a plan for soliciting the aid of all allied societies, a letter was forwarded to their executive officers, which brought many favorable replies. I am convinced that by united effort wonderful results may be attained, and am hoping for great things to result from the meeting of Patriotic Instructors to be held at Los Angeles, with the possible formation of a society of Patriotic Instructors, which while not a part of the Grand Army of the Republic, shall conduct patriotic work along the lines approved by that organization.

OFFICE OF NATIONAL PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.  
101 TREMONT STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

Desiring to have the co-operation of all patriotic workers in the United States, I am asking your assistance in the furtherance of my life thought for the general pressing forward of patriotic work. I also hope to enlist the interests of other societies who are working along similar lines.

1. To strive to have the United States Flag fly over every schoolhouse and public building in the Union. A number of states have no Flag law, and in others where there is a law there is no penalty for its transgression. In Massachusetts there is an excellent law, a copy of which I shall be glad to furnish upon application. I am also writing the Confederate Veteran Camps of the South, soliciting their aid.

2. Our day of sacred memory, Memorial Day, should have a place in the International Sunday School lessons on the Sunday preceding the 30th of May. The lesson committee has many similar calls for lessons upon days of various significance. For us to thus attain a place for a patriotic



Sunday will require a great amount of persistent influence, but if from all over our country a flood of letters making such request should pour in upon this committee, I think they would heed the demand. These lessons are prepared considerably in advance of their use. Enclosed find names of the lesson committee, 1912-1914. If each one of your members were to write to each of this committee the object would be accomplished.

3. To urge that the Sunday school as well as the day school shall have a Flag in its place of meeting.

4. That both Memorial Day and Flag Day shall have a place in the services of every church in the United States.

5. That more patriotic talks shall be given before day and Sunday school children than has been the custom. To the children of today we must look for the citizens of the future, and the perpetuation of the beautiful custom of strewing flowers where our heroes sleep, and otherwise paying tribute to their bravery and devotion.

6. That every patriotic body should detail one of their number to visit each month the graves of members of the Grand Army of the Republic, to see that the markers are in place, and that the Flags have not fallen to the ground or broken off, and, if they have, to adjust or replace them.

7. To encourage the observance of the birthday of Abraham Lincoln by exercises in the schools; as there is no character in American history which exemplifies a finer type of manhood or patriotism, or is more worthy of emulation. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address should always be included in Memorial Day exercises.

Concerted action along the lines above indicated should result in a material increase in patriotic sentiment and action, which is most desirable. Suggestions for patriotic work will be gratefully received.

Cordially yours in F. C. and L.

May, 1912.

JOHN B. LEWIS,  
*National Patriotic Instructor, G. A. R.*

In Massachusetts we have an especial holiday, the 19th of April, known as "Patriots' Day." The Boston Sunday Globe of April 14 presented as a feature a symposium entitled "What Does It Mean to Be 'Patriotic'?" In this the National Patriotic Instructor, with others recognized as exponents of patriotism, was invited to participate, and contributed an article, which later was forwarded to Department Patriotic Instructors for use in the press in connection with Independence Day.

## FLAG DAY.

OFFICE OF NATIONAL PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.  
BOSTON, MASS.

On June 14, 1777, the American Congress adopted the following resolution, in accordance with the recommendation of a committee composed of General George Washington, Robert Morris and George Ross:

"*Resolved*, That the Flag of the thirteen United States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white; that the Union be thirteen stars, white on a blue field, representing a new constellation."

Practically the same Flag is ours today, the only change being the increase of the number of stars from thirteen to forty-eight, in accordance with the act of Congress passed April 4, 1818:

"And be it further enacted that on the admission of every new State into the Union, one star be added to the Union of the Flag; and that such addition shall take effect on the 4th of July next succeeding such admission."

Although we are among the youngest of the great nations, our Flag is one of the oldest, now 135 years. It is especially appropriate, therefore, that the recurring anniversaries of the birth of our Flag shall be set apart for special observance, and each year the custom is increasing, largely owing to the work of the Grand Army of the Republic and allied organizations. There is, however, more work to be done, and Patriotic Instructors have it in their power to promote it and carry it to success.

Not a third of our States have a law requiring that the Flag shall fly over public buildings, nor one to protect our Flag from desecrating uses. To the men who upheld the Flag when the nation was trembling for existence comes the duty of seeing that the Flag which has never known defeat shall float over all schoolhouses and public buildings in our land, to serve as an inspiration of patriotism to coming generations, and also that it shall not be degraded to ignoble uses.

If we do not secure the passage of such laws, who, think you, will do so? So swiftly is the Grand Army of the Republic disappearing that immediate action is necessary.

If your State has no satisfactory Flag laws, on request I will gladly send you a copy of that of Massachusetts, which has been most successful in its application, for your guidance in framing the necessary bill for your Legislature.

Yours in F. C. and L.

J. B. LEWIS,  
*National Patriotic Instructor.*

In his General Orders No. 7, Commander-in-Chief Trimble graciously included a strongly worded paragraph on the observation of Flag Day.

Reports generally indicate increasing interest in Flag Day, not only in the North and West of our country, but in the South. Flag Day is one of the patriotic days on which the various sections may come together in absolute harmony of thought and feeling, for our flag is not a product of the civil war, but was given by our forefathers, who knew no sectional divisions except that between themselves and the mother country.

Many a soldier of the South tells of a love for the old Flag which made duty, as it appeared to him, doubly hard, and I have received hundreds of letters from Southern Veterans breathing a love of country and flag which cannot be exceeded by any who wore the blue.

Believing that these men of the South would accept the suggestion in the spirit in which it was given, I forwarded this letter to the adjutant of every Confederate Camp:

OFFICE OF NATIONAL PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR, GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.  
101 TREMONT STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

June 28, 1912.

*Dear Adjutant:* In July, 1913, will occur the fiftieth anniversary of the battle of Gettysburg, and the survivors of both armies who met upon that famous field are planning to round out the half century of peace and prosperity which has succeeded that time of bitterness and strife, by a joint reunion. Upon that occasion the veterans who wore the gray and those who wore the blue—whose heroic deeds have stamped them as being the bravest men who ever trod the earth—will meet to clasp loving hands, with truly loyal hearts, members of one great family; and will present to the world an object lesson of friendship and forgiveness such as only Americans, whose valor has been tried as by fire, can afford.

As Cain and Abel—the first brothers upon earth—quarreled, so all down through the ages the brothers of families have occasionally had their differences, usually followed by a return and sometimes a strengthening of friendship, so we boys who were so divided in the '60s are now members of one great national family and loyal to our Government and our Flag. By our united efforts we have built this country since the war until it is unequaled in wealth and splendor, civilization, power and productiveness. We also present to the world a social and commercial phenomena the equal of which could not be found in all past history.

In all this achievement we have stood together, as we should do were our country assailed by a foe from without its borders. As a pledge of our unity, our glorious emblem, the Stars and Stripes, the equal heritage of the North and the South, should fly over or at every public building and school-house. I have written every post of the Grand Army in the United States, urging them to see that this is done in their locality. May I not hope that your Camp will also aid in this effort to increase the flying of the Flag? If there should be no provision made by your local authorities for furnishing Flags, and it is difficult for you to procure money to purchase them, I think I might be able to assist you to provide a Flag of requisite size, if the recipient will furnish a place to float it. Trusting you will receive my letter in the same kindly spirit as that which prompts the sending of it, and that you will feel free to write me, also thanking you in advance for an early reply, I am,

Cordially yours,

JOHN B. LEWIS,

*National Patriotic Instructor, G. A. R.*

Just a few extracts from replies will show you how my letter was received, and the possibilities of efficient co-operation in the South:

"I am in hearty sympathy with the sentiment expressed in yours of the 28th ult., and stand ready to act in concert with you in having the Stars and Stripes float over the public and school buildings of this county. Although I fought against that flag (was shot three times at the battle of Shiloh), I am as loyal to it now as if we had never had this quarrel among ourselves, and I feel sure that I voice the sentiment of my Camp, as well as the private citizens of this county. We are erecting a nice court house here in this town, which will be finished about November next. No provision for a flagpole had been made in the plans. On receipt of your letter I immediately took the matter up with the contractor and architect, and am promised a pole without cost to the county. Have also spoken to our school director in regard to placing a flag on the public school building. Will have no trouble getting the consent of the board, but do not know if they will make an appropriation for the purpose."

"*My Dear Friend and Former Foe:* . . . I assure you that your letter is received in the same kind and brotherly spirit which prompted you in sending it. There is no animosity that rankles in the bosoms of Confederate Veterans as the result of the war. They fought not for slavery, but for a principle they held sacred, and their highest ambition is to leave to their children the greatest, best and most humane Government in the world, and that the Star-Spangled Banner may be loved and respected wherever it floats."

"I appreciate and want to thank you for the kindly sentiments you so well express. . . . We would like to have the old Flag wave over our county high school at this place, and if you will



select it and send it to me I will pay for it and see that it gets plenty of fresh air and sunlight."

"I admire the spirit in which your letter is written very much, which makes me altogether forget the animosities of the '60s. As to the Flags, I am proud to inform you that the Stars and Stripes floats this day from the dome of our two hundred thousand dollar court house, and hundreds of them will be flung to the breeze on the glorious Fourth of July, next Thursday. I want to tell you that I fought under the Stars and Bars, and was as loyal to them as any man who risked his life for them. Likewise I am as loyal to the Stars and Stripes as any man who lives under them, and glory in our great reunited country."

As many Confederate Camps, like Posts of the Grand Army, are of small membership and limited funds, the opportunities for assistance in the way of furnishing flags are likely to be more numerous than I had even dreamed, and a considerable expense for a single individual, however willing. Knowing the grand patriotic work of our allied societies of women, and their facilities for obtaining needed funds, I addressed a letter to each of their National Patriotic Instructors, forwarding it through their respective presidents.

At the time of compiling this report it is too early to record results, but it is my hope and conviction that my successor in office will not fail to follow up the opportunity thus presented, not only for fostering a spirit of conciliation, but of affording to the children of the South the same object lessons in patriotism as those so freely supplied in the North and West.

#### DESECRATION OF THE FLAG.

Are we using our utmost influence to prevent desecration of our national emblem? As a citizen of Massachusetts, which has at least one of the best and most stringent laws against the desecration of our Flag, the subject had not been forced upon my attention as might have been the case elsewhere—in the national capital, for instance.

Recently, however, I have received a reminder that even in States where the Flag laws are apparently prohibitive, we cannot be too vigilant in guarding our Flag from degrading uses. In connection with the car strike in this city a big demonstration occurred on Boston Common on Sunday afternoon, June 10. As a means of "gathering in the offerings" an American Flag was used as a receptacle. Onlookers said that in addition to money, from the vast crowd cigar butts and other filthy articles were thrown into the flag, forming a disgusting mass.

As the patriotic representative of the greatest of all patriotic organizations, the Grand Army of the Republic, I wrote the Mayor of Boston, protesting against the negligence of the police in allowing such a thing to occur. It is gratifying to know that other patriotic societies, notably the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Daughters of Liberty, entered similar protests.

Shall we not in the coming year use all possible effort to have enacted a national law to prevent desecration of our Flag, for nowhere is there more need of such a law than under the shadow of the Capitol itself, in the District of Columbia.

## DEPARTMENT PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTORS.

Very gratifying and enjoyable has been the exchange of ideas with the Department Patriotic Instructors, with whom I have been in close touch and in the most harmonious relation. It is to be regretted that of the forty-four Departments but thirty-three Patriotic Instructors have sent a yearly report. In my opinion this is mainly because of changes in the incumbents of the offices and the uncertainty as to just who should make the report. This should be more clearly defined than has been the case.

That the progress of the work in various sections may be better understood, brief abstracts of reports from the States reporting are here given. In some instances blanks were used, in others not. While I approve heartily of the blanks as a guide to subject matter, much important information is omitted by adhering too closely to them.

A close study of these reports will reveal many interesting phases of the work, and repay any who are interested in this branch of Grand Army activity. I am deeply grateful to the Comrades who have done such grand work, and have made possible whatever degree of success has been attained. It is pleasing to note that many of them have served for several consecutive years, showing the appreciation of their respective Departments.

## REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTS.

## ALABAMA.

A. N. Ballard, of Birmingham, Ala., Department Patriotic Instructor of Alabama, reports:

In Alabama we are gaining ground. We have no Flag law, but the sentiment of general patriotism is growing, and by the time our Legislature meets again we shall have a bill presented. Please send me a copy of the Massachusetts Flag law, as you suggest. Many of our schools display the Flag. Some individual schools have Flag drills which are popular and interesting, and the display of the Flag on special occasions is very general and is much used for decorating. Our Woman's Relief Corps is very helpful in carrying on the matter of creating sentiment and educating the people. Mobile has organized a new Post and shows a great deal of enthusiasm. Our Southern press is not averse to helping along in this matter; very patriotic and commendable articles appear at intervals. We hope to keep on growing in patriotism and enthusiasm until we shall be one united people from shore to shore. I must thank you for the inspiration you have given me.

## ARKANSAS.

J. E. Crane, of Siloam Springs, Department Patriotic Instructor of Arkansas, reports:

As far as possible to ascertain Post Patriotic Instructors have been appointed and installed. Number of school buildings, 5,710, which are supplied with Flags in but few instances; 366,054 pupils in public schools, 9,212 in private. In a few of the higher schools pupils are interested in raising and lowering Flag at opening and closing of school sessions. There is no State Flag law. In high schools the salute to the Flag is a part of daily exercises. A few colleges and universities give military instruction, but as far as known none of them have retired army officers as instructors.

Patriotic anniversaries generally observed, but Comrades seldom visit schools to assist in the work. A few teachers show lively interest. Only the Relief Corps has co-operated with G. A. R. When there are Posts in the same town with schools the latter participate in Memorial Day observances in schools. A few flags have been presented schools by private enterprise. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address has not been placed in schools. In a few instances prizes are given high school pupils for patriotic essays. Memorial Day was generally observed in churches. Governor of State did not recognize Flag Day by proclamation. No estimate of cost of carrying on work.

#### CALIFORNIA AND NEVADA.

George D. Kellogg, of New Castle, retiring Department Patriotic Instructor, sends the following:

The year has been a good one, and I am pleased to report that the Patriotic Instructors of the Grand Army of the Republic and their allied societies have proven themselves very active as well as efficient in their duties. Our holidays have been generally observed—Washington and Lincoln birthdays, Memorial Sunday, Memorial, Flag and Independence Days. Have personally officiated and spoken at many of these exercises.

Special attention has been given to the placing of Flags upon schoolhouses and lots, also in the schoolrooms, until it is difficult to find in California or Nevada a schoolhouse without the Flag. These are saluted regularly by teachers and scholars. Memorial Day has never been more worthily or generally observed than in the past two years. Many churches, Sunday schools, young people's societies and fraternal orders have by resolution called attention to the observance of the day and denounced any desecration of it. Posts and Auxiliaries have been circularized six times during the year from the Patriotic Instructor's office on matters of patriotic observances. Have opened a campaign for a better observance of Mothers' Day, and for supplying Sunday schools and churches with Flags.

Recommends for consideration of G. A. R. the fiftieth anniversary of the siege of Vicksburg, Miss., next May.

Suggests that the National Encampment provide for an amendment to the Service Book, inserting in its proper place the name of the Patriotic Instructor along with other officers to be elected or appointed, and that the subject matter of the pasters given out in 1910 to be pasted in Service Books shall be printed in with the Installation Ceremonies, as many Posts have lost the slips and have nothing to guide them in the work. The Service Book of Memorial Day exercises should be much simplified, making the service more connected than at present.

Recommends that Department Patriotic Instructors have special blanks for reports from Posts, the Woman's Relief Corps and Ladies of the G. A. R., and the Patriotic Instructors of Posts be required to make a report to the Department Patriotic Instructor of Memorial Day, Flag Day and other patriotic anniversaries.

Recommends that Department Patriotic Instructors shall have no restrictions upon their office in the performance of their duties.

Also recommends that one evening at least be set apart at each National and Department Encampment, for the purpose of reunion, campfire and the promulgation of patriotic sentiment; and if possible that there shall be a day session of Patriotic Instructors wherein our own and allied Patriotic Instructors may meet to exchange ideas and stimulate each other in their home work.

Comrade J. H. Lawrence, of Oakland, incoming Department Patriotic Instructor, also writes enthusiastically of the work in his Department. Under date of June 17 he says: "I am greatly pleased with the reports coming in on the observance of Memorial Day. \* \* \* Much more attention was given the day by the general public, and fewer picnics, excursions,



etc., were indulged in than previously. I am encouraged to believe that we have at last penetrated under the cuticle of public opinion \* \* \* and have awakened the better sense and conscience of the people. The G. A. R. is to be congratulated on this result, and I am anxious that as great an influence shall come from the gathering at Los Angeles as possible, of a high character, that the final years of the G. A. R. may see the final triumph of the principles for which we contend established in the hearts of the American people."

## CONNECTICUT.

C. A. Potter, of Danielson, Department Patriotic Instructor of Connecticut, reports:

Post Patriotic Instructors have been appointed and installed. There are 2,421 school buildings in the state, and they are supplied with Flags; 182 private schools. Number of pupils in schools, 195,000. Pupils generally are interested in the raising and lowering of Flag at the opening and closing of schools. There is a State Flag law. Salute to the Flag is a part of the school exercises. Twenty-five schools give military instruction, four having retired army officers as instructors. Patriotic days are observed in the schools. Comrades visit schools to assist in the work. Teachers show a lively interest in the work. The G. A. R. has had the co-operation of the Woman's Relief Corps, Ladies of the G. A. R., Sons of Veterans, Spanish War Veterans, and Daughters of the American Revolution. Schools throughout the State had Memorial Day observances, with especially fine exercises in the larger cities. Number of Flags supplied to schools not estimated. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address has been placed in some schools. Prizes are given pupils of high schools for patriotic essays. Memorial Day was observed in the churches. The Governor of the State recognized Flag Day by proclamation.

## DELAWARE.

William G. Baugh, of Wilmington, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

Washington's and Lincoln's Birthdays and Flag Day are generally observed. The last school day previous to Memorial Day is marked by patriotic exercises in the schools, and many Comrades attend and speak to the pupils. This is a great day among the children. Memorial day this year was far above any which have preceded. Posts generally attended church on Memorial Sunday and heard excellent addresses by the various pastors. More Flags than ever before were displayed upon buildings on Flag Day, and on the Fourth of July they were everywhere to be seen.

Patriotism is spreading very fast among the young and old alike, due in great measure to the Grand Army of the Republic.

## GEORGIA AND SOUTH CAROLINA.

Lucius Perry Hill, Department Patriotic Instructor, writes:

In most Posts Patriotic Instructors have been appointed and installed. Number of school buildings not known. Many are supplied with Flags and the number is increasing. The raising and lowering of the Flag at the opening and closing of school sessions is not generally participated in by pupils. There is no State law for the flying of the Flag over schools. Salute to the Flag is not a part of the school exercises. The birthdays of Washington and Lincoln, and Memorial Day and Flag Day are observed in the schools, but for obvious reasons Comrades do not often visit the schools to assist in the work. Interest of teachers is not great. Only the W. R. C. has actively co-operated with the G. A. R., although the D. A. R. are beginning to take great interest in Flag Day. The national Memorial Day is not observed in the schools. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address has not been placed

in schools. Prizes are sometimes given high school pupils for patriotic essays. Memorial Sunday was not observed in the churches. The Governor of the State did not recognize Flag Day by proclamation. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction has not been requested to furnish Flags and manuals of patriotism to schools.

## IDAHO.

George A. Manning, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

But four Post Patriotic Instructors have reported, which might seem to indicate that the spirit of patriotism among the Comrades was dying out, but the favorable reports of those heard from lead one to believe that some other cause than waning of patriotism can be found for those who have not reported, perhaps because proper blanks for such reports have not been furnished. Exercises of Memorial Day were participated in by Woman's Relief Corps, Sons of Veterans, Boy Scouts and school children and citizens. Flag Day was fittingly observed by all. Schools are supplied with Flags, and teachers manifest a lively interest in teaching patriotism.

## ILLINOIS.

William H. Brydges, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

In most cases Patriotic Instructors have been appointed and installed. There are 13,123 school buildings in the Department, about seventy per cent of which are supplied with Flags. Estimated number of private schools, 869. Number of pupils in schools, 1,002,687. Where the practice prevails children take interest in the raising and lowering of the Flag. There is no law in Illinois making it mandatory to fly the Flag while the school is in session. The salute to the flag is not generally a part of the daily exercises in Illinois schools. There are places and schools, however, where the practice prevails. Schools in Illinois generally observe the birthdays of Washington and Lincoln, also Memorial Day. Flag Day is growing in favor. Comrades visit the schools quite generally, especially when they have competent leadership. In some localities they spend two or three days previous to Memorial Day visiting schools and assisting in patriotic exercises. As a rule teachers manifest a lively interest in patriotic observances, but are influenced in this as in other matters by the opinions and leadership of their superintendents.

It being known that the State Superintendent of Public Instruction had no means at his disposal with which to furnish Flags, no request was made for that purpose. He prepared and published a large edition of a very helpful Memorial Day annual. These were supplied to the schools of the State, and a sufficient number secured by the Department Patriotic Instructor for all the Post Patriotic Instructors.

Besides the above named annual, a valuable manual prepared by the National Patriotic Instructor, a copy of the Illinois Flag law, a copy of Lincoln's Gettysburg Address and circulars have been sent Post Patriotic Instructors. The G. A. R. has had the co-operation of the W. R. C., Ladies of the G. A. R., D. A. R., Sons of Veterans, Spanish War Veterans, and the Auxiliaries of the last two.

## INDIANA.

F. M. Van Pelt, Patriotic Instructor, Department of Indiana, reports:

Patriotic Instructors have been appointed and installed. Number of school buildings in Department 9,284, which in most cases are supplied with Flags. Number of pupils in schools, 754,972. Pupils generally are interested in the raising and lowering of the Flag at the opening and closing of school sessions, and the salute to the Flag is a part of the school exercises. There is a State Flag law. Two schools give military instruction, both having retired army officers as instructors. The birthdays of Washington and Lin-

coln, also Memorial and Flag Days, are observed in schools. Comrades visit the schools to assist in the work, and most teachers show lively interest in patriotic observances. The G. A. R. has had the co-operation of the W. R. C., the Ladies of the G. A. R., Sons of Veterans and Spanish War Veterans. On Memorial Day superintendents and teachers form the children, who parade with the Veterans to the cemeteries and assist in the decoration of the graves, usually returning with them to some church, where exercises are held. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address has been placed in many schools. In some cases prizes are given to pupils of high schools for patriotic essays. Memorial Sunday was observed by patriotic exercises in the churches. Flag Day was recognized by the Governor in a proclamation. The statutes require that Flags shall be furnished when requested by a majority of the patrons of any School.

## IOWA.

H. T. Buil, Department Patriotic Instructor, writes:

Patriotic Instructors of Posts have generally been appointed and installed. There are 5,001 school buildings, nearly all supplied with Flags. Estimated number of private schools, 770. Number of pupils in schools, 45,900. Pupils are not interested in the raising and lowering of the Flag at the opening and closing of school sessions. There is no State law making it obligatory to fly the flag upon schoolhouses during school sessions. The salute to the flag is not a part of the school exercises. Ten schools give military instruction, but none have retired army officers as instructors. Patriotic days are observed in the schools, comrades visiting the schools to assist. Teachers show lively interest in patriotic observances. Have had co-operation of W. R. C., D. A. R. and Sons of Veterans. At least 2,000 Flags have been supplied to schools this year. Lincoln's Gettysburg Address has been placed in many schools. Prizes are not given to pupils of high schools for patriotic essays. As usual, the Governor recognized Flag Day by proclamation. The State Superintendent of Education has been requested to furnish flags and manuals of patriotism to schools, with favorable response.

There is no lack of patriotism among the citizens of Iowa. What is needed is a competent commander to direct them. They will do the rest.

## LOUISIANA AND MISSISSIPPI.

Paul Bruce, newly elected Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

Post Patriotic Instructors have been appointed and installed. Have 117 school buildings, all supplied with Flags. No state law making it obligatory to fly the Flag, but the Governor recognized the day by proclamation. The Woman's Relief Corps and Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic co-operated during the year. In this Department they have a salute to the Flag once a week. The teachers show no interest in patriotism, nor do the Comrades visit the schools.

## MAINE.

Silas Adams, Department Patriotic Instructor, writes:

The work in the town schools is rapidly being brought into harmony with the idea of patriotism and love of country, and especially in the history of the Flag. Circulars were sent to every Post Patriotic Instructor, urging them to visit schools and talk to the pupils. While the Flag service is generally observed in schools, in many the school officials give the movement a cold reception, and Patriotic Instructors cannot get access to the school-room. Of 100 blanks sent to Posts, but 40 have responded. In many schools personally visited the pupils were eager listeners, glad to hear the story of their country told by one who was an actor in the great war drama of the '60s. Schools cheerfully respond to the demands of Memorial Day, bearing a prominent part. Teachers prove themselves ready instructors.



Veterans should be leaders, as their presence adds force and dignity. Department Patriotic Instructors should serve several years, as it is not always possible to put one's plans into execution in a single term.

#### MARYLAND.

Patriotic Instructors have been appointed by ninety per cent of the Posts in this Department. Some Posts, however, are so small in numbers that no one is available for the office. Number of public schools in the State, 2,502. In the city of Baltimore there are 118 schools for white and colored children, 40 parochial schools and a considerable number of private. There are 148,840 children in the schools of the state; 65,000 in Baltimore. Most schools have the Flag floating above them, and patriotic lessons are given in many of them, the teachers showing much interest. June 9, Flag Sunday, was made memorable by a special service at Patterson Memorial church, attended by Comrades, Ladies of the W. R. C. and friends. Flag Day was never before so fully observed. Many flags were displayed, and 64,000 small flags were given to the school children in connection with the exercises of the day. One flag was presented to a school by the patrons, and was run to the top of the pole by an ex-Confederate soldier.

The members of the G. A. R. here feel that the seeds of patriotism we have sown are taking root, and will some day yield a rich harvest.

#### MASSACHUSETTS.

Edward O. Skelton, of Boston, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

Post Patriotic Instructors have generally been appointed and installed, though some Posts are numerically too small to fill the office. School buildings are supplied with flags, and in some places pupils show interest in raising and lowering the flag at the opening and closing of school sessions. The salute to the flag is a part of the daily exercises. Comrades visit the schools, and teachers generally show a lively interest in patriotic observances. Have had the co-operation of the Woman's Relief Corps and the Daughters of Veterans. Thousands of flags have been presented to the schools during the year just past. In some schools Lincoln's Gettysburg address has been placed. Prizes are not given pupils of high schools for patriotic essays. Memorial Sunday was observed in many churches. The Governor did not recognize Flag Day by proclamation. Department Patriotic Instructor never asks for money appropriation for patriotic work. Each city and town furnishes flags for its schools.

#### MICHIGAN.

Francis McElroy, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

The greater number of Posts have appointed and installed Patriotic Instructors. In 1909 there were 8,491 school buildings in Michigan, and they were supplied with flags. Pupils are generally interested in the raising and lowering of the flag at the opening and close of school sessions. Since 1895 there has been a state law making it obligatory to fly the flag on schools when in session. Some schools have the salute to the flag as part of the daily exercises. Several schools give military instruction. Comrades visit the schools to assist in the work; most teachers show a lively interest in patriotic observances. Birthdays of Washington and Lincoln and Memorial and Flag Days are observed. Have had the co-operation of the Sons of Veterans, Woman's Relief Corps and Ladies of the G. A. R. Boards are obliged to supply flags for schools. Lincoln's Gettysburg address has been placed prominently in school buildings. In some schools prizes are given pupils of high schools for patriotic essays. Memorial Day was generally observed, also Flag Day. The Governor of the State recognized Flag Day by proclamation.

## MINNESOTA.

Levi Longfellow of Minneapolis, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

During year have assisted at nine patriotic services in churches, addressed thirteen public schools, taken part in fifteen campfires, besides delivering six patriotic addresses on various other occasions. On January 23, 1912, sent circular letter to Posts, instructing Patriotic Instructors in their duties and outlining plans for the general observances of patriotic days, which have been very helpful and will bring good results.

Full and complete reports were received from Post Patriotic Instructors in many communities. But few failed to report. If the reports represented even a fair average of what is being done, we may indeed "thank God and take courage." Many contained valuable information and useful suggestions, showing that the comrades are guarding the picket line of civic righteousness notwithstanding decreasing numbers and adverse physical conditions.

Public school buildings are mostly supplied with flags. Birthdays of Washington and Lincoln and most other patriotic days are observed in schools; comrades and patriotic women are usually present to participate in the exercises.

On June 27, 1912, addressed a letter to over 500 Sunday school superintendents in Hennepin and Ramsay counties, calling attention to the fact that July 4 would be the 130th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, and suggesting that the event be commemorated by the Sunday schools on June 30, the Sunday prior to the date.

## MISSOURI.

W. C. Calland of Springfield, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

Lincoln's Gettysburg address has been handsomely framed and hung in 20 ward schools. Nearly all Posts have observed some public day on which to inspire patriotic sentiment. Many posts have made energetic efforts to secure children to aid in decorating graves of fallen comrades. The influence of our sacred "Memorial Day" has so impressed the public with its eternal fitness that many civic organizations are adopting it and observing their memorial days.

We truly believe that reverence for the flag is growing in this state and nation. Most families now possess a flag to display on all public occasions. Flag Day is becoming more popular. Our school children think they cannot march unless "Old Glory" leads the advance. Ten presentations of flags to schools are reported. Three prizes were awarded for the best essays on the flag. Patriotic Instructors have been giving more and more attention to "shut in" comrades and those unable to attend Post.

The Patriotic Department has been self-sustaining—refusing to draw any sum from our depleted treasury. Forty-one dollars has sufficed for our urgent needs. While we have found it more difficult to get active work from old comrades, and their reports come in more tardily there is no diminution of patriotic fire.

Number of schools visited by comrades, 245; number schools observing Flag Day, 280; addresses made in schools by comrades, 41; schools observing some patriotic day, 225; addresses made in colleges, high schools and normals, 20; entertainments conducted by Patriotic Instructors, 35; entertainments given by Posts at which patriotism was emphasized, 78.

A law to prevent flag desecration by advertising passed our Legislature, but there is none making it mandatory to place the flag upon or near school-houses. In time it will come.

## MONTANA.

J. B. Overturf of Hamilton, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

Post Patriotic Instructors have not been appointed and installed, or at least none have reported. Schools are not very generally supplied with flags,

therefore children are not interested in raising and lowering them at opening and closing of school sessions. Salute to flag is not a part of daily or occasional exercises. One school gives military instruction. Birthdays of Washington and Lincoln and Memorial and Flag Day are generally observed. Comrades visit the schools, but teachers generally are not interested. Have had co-operation of W. R. C. and Ladies of the G. A. R.

Memorial Sunday and Memorial Day are generally observed. But few flags have been supplied to schools. Lincoln's Gettysburg address has not been placed in schools. Prizes are not given for patriotic essays. Memorial Sunday was observed by churches. Governor of State did not recognize Flag Day by proclamation. State superintendent of public education has been requested to furnish flags and manuals of patriotism to schools, but no response has been received.

#### NEBRASKA.

S. C. Bassett, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

Only a few Posts have reported Patriotic Instructors appointed and installed. Number of school buildings in Department, 7,157. Schoolrooms are generally supplied with flags. Private schools, 54. Number of pupils in schools, 278,936. In only a few schools is the flag raised during school sessions. There is no state law making it obligatory to fly the flag on schools while in session. The salute to the flag is a part of the school exercises, once each month. Three schools give military instruction, and two have retired army officers as instructors. Patriotic days are observed in schools. On many occasions comrades visit the schools to assist in the work. Teachers show lively interest in patriotic observances. Have had co-operation of the Woman's Relief Corps. Memorial Day is generally observed by all the people. Schools are closed at this season of the year, but school children take part in the exercises. Schools all have flags. Lincoln's Gettysburg address has been placed prominently in school buildings. Seldom are prizes given to high school pupils for patriotic essays. Memorial Day was observed in the churches. The Governor of the State recognized Flag Day by proclamation. There are no funds for carrying on patriotic work. The state superintendent of public instruction has been requested to furnish flags and manuals of patriotism to schools.

#### NEW HAMPSHIRE.

David E. Proctor, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

Post Patriotic Instructors have been appointed and installed, but only two have made reports. About 2,000 school buildings, mostly supplied with flags. Few private schools except parochial. Number of pupils in schools, 76,000, and they are interested in the raising and lowering of flag at opening and close of school sessions. There is a state law regulating the flying of the flag over schoolhouses. The salute to the flag is in many cases a part of the school exercises. Military instruction is given at N. H. Agricultural College at Durham. Birthdays of Washington and Lincoln, and Memorial and Flag Days are observed in the schools. Comrades visit schools to assist, and some teachers show much interest in patriotic observance. Have had the co-operation of the W. R. C., Sons of Veterans and the Grange. Lincoln's Gettysburg address has not been placed in school buildings. Prizes are not given high school pupils for patriotic exercises. Memorial Day was observed in the churches. Governor did not recognize Flag Day by proclamation. Was allowed \$5 for stamps and printing. State superintendent of public education has no funds for furnishing flags and manuals of Patriotism to the schools.

#### NEW JERSEY.

Uriah Seely of Newark, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

This year has been the best of all our years in patriotic work. Fully ninety



per cent of Posts have reported and all seem alert to the importance of the work. We have lovely help from the ladies of the Woman's Relief Corps, Ladies of the G. A. R., Sons of Veterans, and United Order of American Mechanics. The order of Elks are also creating a beautiful enthusiasm on patriotic subjects, and especially our flag.

Many churches are giving one or more services a year to the veterans and the flag, and we have presented flags and Lincoln's Gettysburg speech to a number of Sunday schools and churches. Through the efforts of Comrade W. A. Crawford, former mayor of Montclair, and the aid of some patriotic citizens, we have been able to place a bronze and marble tablet of the Gettysburg address in every public and parish school in that city.

In planning our work it would be well if Post Patriotic Instructors in every county might get together once or twice a year and talk over the work and go and visit little villages where there are no Posts and arrange to hold a patriotic service. There are church doors open to us in every town North and South if we go in the spirit of F. C. and L. Have tried it several times this year and find it interesting and beautiful.

#### NEW YORK.

Henry C. Weeks, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

There are 574 Posts in this Department, and reports have been received from 471. Patriotic Instructors were appointed in most Posts, and all seem to have entered into the work with zeal characteristic of the G. A. R. Assistant Patriotic Instructors were appointed in all the counties, 61 in number, and instruction was given by them to both assistant and Post Instructors.

The law making it obligatory to float the flag over or near every school building in this state is fully complied with. All schools are supplied with flags, large or small, and the salute to the flag is given very generally either daily or occasionally.

Birthdays of Washington and Lincoln, with Memorial Day and Flag Day, are observed with increasing interest, other patriotic days quite generally. School teachers and principals show a lively interest in patriotic observances. Comrades do not visit the schools as often as would tend to promote better influences and deeper interest along patriotic lines. The W. R. C., Ladies of the G. A. R. and Sons of Veterans render willing assistance.

Increasing interest in Memorial Day is noted, not only among our own and affiliated societies, but among citizens generally. Notwithstanding rapid decrease in our effective ranks, the amount of patriotic work done in schools by comrades exceeds that of any previous year.

Sabbath schools are coming to realize the importance of patriotic instruction, and are placing "Old Glory" in many of them, and holding special services along patriotic lines.

#### OHIO.

J. W. Rogers, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

Most of his work has been done with paper and pen and printers' ink, some 7,000 pieces with 600 cards. Has visited 87 schools and attended 21 public gatherings. Total expenses, \$151.25. Patriotic work throughout state has been sadly neglected, but at recent State Encampment at Springfield there was considerable discussion of the subject and more activity was urged, as it was not creditable that the work should lag behind that of other Departments, so the outlook for the future is more encouraging.

#### OREGON.

D. W. Matthews of Salem, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

Have been much handicapped in my efforts to visit Posts by the lack of funds for traveling expenses. Some way should be provided for defraying

traveling expenses if the best service is expected of the Department Patriotic Instructor. Posts visited show general prosperity, many recruits coming from Eastern Posts, these comrades having come to the Pacific Coast to spend their declining days.

Prior to Memorial Day details of comrades from Posts throughout the Department visited the public schools and gave patriotic talks to the pupils, which were well received and appreciated. In most cases programs were presented by pupils, and school buildings were beautifully decorated with flags and flowers. Memorial Day was if possible more generally observed than ever before. Business was generally suspended, and patriotic citizens joined with the comrades in strewing flowers above the graves.

There seems to be an increasing interest in the observance of Flag Day, by a general display of "Old Glory" from public buildings and at the homes of citizens. This is largely due to the work of the G. A. R. and its allied organizations.

#### PENNSYLVANIA.

Charles O. Smith of Pittsburgh, Department Patriotic Instructor, writes:

Reports received from Post Patriotic Instructors indicate that patriotic instruction is regarded as one of the most important phases of Grand Army work, and one that will perhaps be most enduring in its form and effect.

Memorial Day, Flag Day, the birthdays of Washington, Lincoln and Grant, as well as other patriotic days and occasions, are being more generally observed and with increased interest and feeling. The observance of Flag Day is growing, but has not reached the limit of our desire, which is that June 14 of every year shall be intelligently and properly observed in every city, village and hamlet, until every man and woman, boy and girl in America shall have learned the lesson of love and loyalty for the stars and stripes.

Some recent reports, particularly those from the outer districts, have a pathetic tone. One comrade writes:

"Our Post is reduced to less than ten members, most of whom are too old and feeble to attend our meetings. . . . I visit the schools as usual but have not the spirit and inspiration of former years."

For the encouragement of those who because of thinning ranks may lose heart in the work, I wish to quote from an inspiring address recently delivered in the Allegheny County Soldiers' Memorial by one of Pittsburgh's distinguished citizens upon the occasion of the observance of Lincoln's birthday by the veterans of that county:

"It is a rare honor to have the privilege of meeting and associating with the survivors of that great struggle. . . . Day by day your ranks are thinning, your members are growing less, and however hard it is to say it, the fact looms up that the day will come, and soon, when none can say that he looked into the face, heard the story and gathered inspiration from the lips of a comrade . . . or from any soldier who performed service anywhere in that struggle. Therefore, having this opportunity, let me put on record my appreciation of the special honor to be one of you on this anniversary occasion."

#### POTOMAC.

A. S. Perham of Washington, D. C., Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

In response to a communication from the Department Commander, the Board of Education voted that the customary exercises in the schools incident to Flag Day be continued this year under auspices of the Grand Army of the Republic. Arrangements were made whereby the G. A. R. was represented in each one of the public schools.

Comrade Perham called upon and had an understanding with superintendent of public instruction, supervising principals and principals, all of which rendered all possible assistance and encouragement. Many comrades who have previously participated in these exercises were unable to do so

this year, but ladies and gentlemen to assist were drawn from the Woman's Relief Corps, Legion of Loyal Women, Daughters of Veterans, Ladies of the U. V. L. Auxiliary, Ladies of the G. A. R., Sons of Veterans, I. W. B. Flag Association, and clergymen and prominent citizens. All our representatives were cordially welcomed by officials, principals and teachers. There seemed to be a pleasing rivalry to teach patriotism, love and devotion to country and flag. Interest in Flag Day seems to increase not only in schools but among citizens generally.

Charles R. Douglass was appointed Assistant Patriotic Instructor of this Department, and had charge of patriotic instruction in a considerable number of schools.

Comrad Douglass says: "Having observed the exercises on Flag Day, Washington's birthday and other occasions in our public schools during the last thirteen years, I take pleasure in testifying to the increased expressed reverence for our flag, a greater knowledge of what it stands for, and more expressions of love and devotion to our country each year."

#### RHODE ISLAND.

C. W. Brown, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

The Department of Rhode Island is in excellent condition in every way. Everything possible is being done to continue the high standing in patriotic teaching which the Department of Rhode Island has ever maintained. An important patriotic event was the unveiling of the Hikers monument at North End Cemetery, Providence, on May 26. The Department Commander and staff were present, and State Adjutant-General C. W. Abbott delivered an eloquent and patriotic address of the highest character.

Comrade Brown urges upon the National Encampment the patriotic value to the new American citizen of the knowledge of the Declaration of Independence, and suggests that some action be taken to the end that every community shall have read on the Fourth of July that inspired and immortal document.

#### SOUTH DAKOTA.

Capt. O. R. Van Etten of Highmore, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports that he has visited 150 schools during the past year, not only town schools but many in the country. Found pupils everywhere full of patriotic enthusiasm. At recent encampment, Comrade Van Etten urged that veterans endeavor to influence their representatives to have an act passed by the Legislature appropriating \$1,500 to pay an authorized Patriotic Instructor to work throughout the state. School buildings are generally supplied with flags, but pupils take interest in raising and lowering them at the opening and closing of school sessions only upon certain days. Flag salute is given in schools only occasionally. Birthdays of Washington and Lincoln and Memorial and Flag Days are observed. Teachers quite generally show interest in patriotic observances. Comrades do not visit schools to assist in the work. G. A. R. has not had the co-operation of other societies. About 20 flags have been presented to schools.

#### TENNESSEE.

A. M. Gamble of Maryville, Department Patriotic Instructor, apologizes for meager report because of serious illness. Post Patriotic Instructors have been appointed, though not in all Posts. Some school buildings are supplied with flags, and pupils show interest in the raising and lowering of flags at opening and close of school sessions when encouraged by parents and teachers. There is no state law making it obligatory to fly the flag over school buildings. The salute to the flag is only occasionally a part of school exercises. The birthdays of Washington and Lincoln and Memorial Day are observed in schools. Some teachers show lively interest in patriotic teaching, but mostly need encouragement. Much good work in presenting



flags to schools has been done by the United Order of American Mechanics, but not in co-operation with G. A. R. Lincoln's Gettysburg address has not been placed in the schools. On very rare occasions prizes have been given pupils of high schools for patriotic essays. Memorial Sunday was observed in the churches. Governor of state did not recognize Flag Day by proclamation. State superintendent of public education has not been requested to furnish flags and manuals of patriotism for schools.

#### TEXAS.

J. J. Billow, Past Department Patriotic Instructor, reports that in his home town (Houston) he was the only member of G. A. R. who displayed the flag on Flag Day, and it was not displayed upon any public building or school house, though he had requested through the newspapers that it should be. Grand Army sentiment seems lacking in Texas, as of more than 30,000 Union veterans, only about 400 are members of Posts.

#### UTAH.

E. W. Tatlock, Assistant Adjutant-General, reports:

Since Jan. 16, there has been no Department Patriotic Instructor of Utah, and therefore the recent Department Encampment had no report of the Patriotic Instructor. While he regrets that Utah should necessarily be left out of report he states that there is hardly another jurisdiction in the United States where the people enter into the work of teaching patriotism so generally and so enthusiastically.

#### VERMONT.

Henry O. Wheeler, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

Post Patriotic Instructors have been appointed and installed. Number of school buildings in Department, 2,142, and they are supplied with flags. But few private schools. In 1910 there were 66,615 pupils in schools. Pupils generally take interest in the raising and lowering of flag at opening and closing of school sessions. There is a state law making it obligatory to fly the flag over schoolhouses. The salute to the flag is occasionally a part of the school exercises. Birthdays of Washington and Lincoln and Memorial Day are observed in schools, comrades visiting the schools to assist. Teachers show a lively interest in such observances. G. A. R. has had the co-operation of the W. R. C., Ladies of the G. A. R., D. A. R. and Sons of Veterans. Number of flags supplied to schools unknown. Lincoln's Gettysburg address has been placed prominently in school buildings. In rare cases prizes have been given pupils of high schools for patriotic essays. Memorial Sunday was observed by churches. Governor of state did not recognize Flag Day by proclamation. Little if any money expended for patriotic teaching. The state authorizes the procuring of flags for schools.

#### WISCONSIN.

Hosea M. Rood of Madison, Department Patriotic Instructor, reports:

The most important work of the G. A. R. today is that of teaching patriotism. Though many comrades think themselves too old to accept the office of Patriotic Instructor, those who are willing to do what they can are earnest and active and their reports are instructive and interesting. From 210 Posts in state but 64 Patriotic Instructors have reported.

There is a growing spirit of patriotism among people as a whole, especially noticeable in schools and churches. More patriotic sermons have been preached by ministers during the past year than ever before, except perhaps in time of war. Patriotic anniversaries are generally observed in the schools.

The Wisconsin Memorial Day Annual, issued from the office of the state superintendent, is a most efficient patriotic instructor. It goes into

every school in the state, every Grand Army Post, Relief Corps and Circle of the Ladies of the G. A. R., and to many other places. Was first put out by state superintendent in the year 1896. Since that time has been improved year by year in appearance and matter as well as scope.

Memorial Day was generally observed by schools. Comrades do not generally visit schools, but teachers as a rule are active teachers of patriotism. Posts in Wisconsin are located in 200 cities and villages, but more than 500 communities had memorial exercises, in many country districts teachers and pupils performing the loving office of decorating the graves. There seems to be less desecration of Memorial Day, continued protests and patriotic instruction having had perceptible effect.

A committee of a local Post appointed to suggest a design for a Memorial Day badge to be worn by everybody, old soldiers and civilians alike, recommended that such token be a small United States flag fastened to the left lapel of the coat or in front of the left shoulder. It was proposed to recommend this to Department and National Encampments of G. A. R., and also to ask the co-operation of the National Education Association in the matter of its general adoption.

On Memorial Day this year memorial trees were planted by some Wisconsin schools, every one named for some old soldier.

The Legislature appropriated \$25,000 for laying out and improving a portion of old Camp Randall at Madison for a memorial park and erecting thereon a Memorial Arch. The Governor appointed a committee of comrades to have charge of the work. Dedicatory exercises were held on June 19, and there was a general reunion of old soldiers.

Most schools have flags furnished by school boards, the law for the same being plain. Many teachers and pupils purchase small silk flags for their school rooms, and some teachers see that each pupil has a small flag of his or her own.

Calls attention to the fact that many flags now on sale have not the full number of stars, and urges that in procuring school flags the matter shall be given attention.

There is an increasing demand for services of Department Patriotic Instructor. Has given 148 addresses during year, in 45 cities and villages, not only to schools and patriotic gatherings of citizens, but to teachers, institutes and church conventions.

Among the many pleasant incidents of the year now ending was a visit to the Confederate Soldiers' Home at New Orleans in March. Previously my own Post in Boston had entertained at one of our reunions General William G. Vincent, a Confederate Veteran, and I in turn was royally entertained at the New Orleans Home. It was my privilege to address the inmates, and I congratulated them upon their surroundings, but remarked that one thing was absent—the Flag of our reunited country. I then offered to send them a Flag if they would agree to float it, and the offer was received with enthusiasm.

Returning North, I told the incident to my Post, E. W. Kinsley No. 113, of Boston. They immediately voted to send with the Flag the sum of \$113 for a dinner for the Veterans on the occasion of the Flag raising. The Fourth of July was a notable occasion in New Orleans, for not only was "Old Glory" raised where it had never been before, over a Confederate Soldiers' Home, but it was also the occasion for the first raising of the Flag with forty-eight stars.

One Confederate veteran who watched it as it unfolded in the breeze said: "It is the most beautiful Flag in the world." As the Flag was raised a band

played the "Star-Spangled Banner." Dinner was served, and there were flowers and speeches, and later in the day the Veterans were served with ice cream and cake. It is such happenings as these which go far toward bringing about the complete reconciliation which is the ideal of all true soldiers of the '60s. The greatest field for patriotic instruction today is in the South.

Patriotic instruction is generally understood as a concentration of effort to promote the teaching of patriotism to the children in the schools. While this is primarily our object, this definition does not cover all the possibilities of the office. There are communities where nothing is left to be desired, thanks to the interest and zeal of superintendents and teachers and the public spirit and liberality of the citizens, but even here patriotic instructors may find worthy employment.

There are various kinds of patriotism—that of the home, the neighborhood, one's city or town—yes, and one's Post. The latter at the present time offers an especial incentive to Grand Army patriotism. Recently, in reading newspaper accounts of the number of Civil War Veterans entitled to pensions under the new law, we were reminded of the thousands yet outside our ranks. Yet these thousands have been benefited equally with ourselves by the work done by the Grand Army of the Republic to secure the pension law we now have, and should be with us in heart and elbow touch in these final days of our long march.

Does not this indicate an inspiring work for Patriotic Instructors? Doubtless there are many who need only a sufficiently cordial invitation to convince them that their place is with us. To those others who must always be assured of some benefit to be obtained, it might be well to mention the fact that in years to come, their descendants, seeking entrance into some society basing eligibility upon the service of a soldier of the Civil War, will be glad to have the indisputable proof that their ancestor was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Indeed, a tinge of suspicion may surround the record of one who was not so affiliated.

Let patriotic instructors bend their energies toward securing recruits to our beloved organization, and thus demonstrate the fraternal quality of their patriotism.

#### CONCLUSION.

Among the choicest memories of the past year will be that of the unvarying courtesy and kindness of Comrade Harvey M. Trimble, Commander-in-Chief, and Adjutant-General Koch. Especially appreciated was their invitation to accompany them on their official visits to several States, where I had an opportunity of meeting and greeting not only the Comrades of the Grand Army of the Republic, but many of the allied bodies.

Due appreciation is also expressed for the granting of the request of the National Patriotic Instructor of the Grand Army of the Republic a day on the official program of the Forty-sixth National Encampment at Los Angeles.

On September 10, at nine o'clock in the morning, at Armory Hall, the Patriotic Instructors of the Grand Army of the Republic, Woman's Relief Corps, Sons of Veterans and their Auxiliary, the Ladies of the G. A. R. and



the Daughters of Veterans, meet for discussion for the good of the order, and if it be the sense of the meeting that the Patriotic Instructors form a national organization, it will result in a permanent association which can hold meetings at future Encampments.

Surely enough thought can be crystallized into such a meeting as to evolve some plan that will bring forth such concerted action as shall be an inspiration not only for the present but for the future.

Cordial thanks are extended to many Departments and organizations which have extended invitations and courtesies which I have been unable to accept, but which were greatly appreciated.

With love and good-will for every Comrade, and for all men and women who are working for the upbuilding of a type of citizenship which shall be a truer exemplification of the grand underlying principles of this, the greatest and best government on earth, I most respectfully submit this report, hoping that I may have implanted at least some seeds which shall eventually bring forth a worthy harvest, and be of assistance to the comrades who shall follow me in the work.

Cordially yours in F., C. and L.

JOHN B. LEWIS,  
*National Patriotic Instructor.*

## REPORT OF TRUSTEES OF PERMANENT FUND.

Zanesville, Ohio, August 20, 1912.

*The Commander-in-Chief and Members of the Forty-sixth National Encampment Grand Army of the Republic:—*

COMRADES:—The Trustees of the Permanent Fund herewith submit their annual report. The details are given in the attached paper bearing the signature of Past Commander-in-Chief Louis Wagner, president of the Third National Bank, who has the custody of the securities and the cash. The invested fund totals \$37,000.00; cash in bank August 1, 1912, \$1,070.00, and we respectfully recommend that the trustees be authorized to purchase a one-thousand dollar bond of a first class city.

The Permanent Fund has grown steadily and the policy of investing the donations and the interest accruing should be continued for at least a few years. During the year just closed the handsome addition of seven thousand dollars to the permanent invested fund indicates what may be accomplished if the National Encampment so wills.

Fraternally submitted in Fraternity, Charity and Loyalty,

R. B. BROWN,  
Chairman Board of Trustees.

Philadelphia, Pa., August 1, 1912.

R. B. BROWN, Esq.,  
*Chairman of Trustees, Permanent Fund,  
National Encampment, G. A. R.*

DEAR SIR AND COMRADE:—I have the honor to report the following statement of receipts, expenditures and assets of the Permanent Fund of the National Encampment, Grand Army of the Republic, for the year ending July 31, 1912:

## RECEIPTS.

1911—

Balance on hand August 1, 1911.....	\$ 459.52
August 29, Berger Legacy.....	1,784.37
August 29, Woman's Relief Corps .....	4,000.00
August 29, Sons of Veterans .....	500.00
August 29, Daughters of Veterans.....	250.00
November 1, Interest on New York City Loan 4½s.....	517.50
December 29, Interest on City of Philadelphia Loan 4's.....	120.00

1912—

January 2, Interest on City of Philadelphia Loan 4's.....	80.00
February 23, Interest on Cleveland, Ohio, School Bonds 4½'s.....	90.00
May 1, Interest on New York City Loan 4½'s.....	517.50
June 28, Interest on City of Philadelphia Loan 4's.....	120.00
July 1, Interest on City of Philadelphia Loan 4's.....	80.00
July 18, Interest on deposits from Aug. 1, 1911, to Aug. 1, 1912.....	15.80
	<u>\$8,534.69</u>

## EXPENDITURES.

1911—

September 5, \$3,000. City of Philadelphia 4 per cent.....\$3,066.33

September 25, \$3,000. Cleveland, O., School Bonds 4½  
per cent ..... 3,245.25November 9, \$1,000. Cleveland, O., School Bonds 4½  
per cent ..... 1,087.13

1912—

January 23. Third National Bank, rent of safe deposit  
box No. 2015 from Dec. 23, 1911, to Dec. 23, 1912.... 3.00February 8. Wagner & Taylor Company, renewal pre-  
mium on bond of Louis Wagner, trustee..... 62.50      7,464.21

Balance on deposit in Third National Bank, Aug. 1, 1912.... \$ 1,070.48

The following is a statement of the investments:

As per last report .....\$30,000.00

\$3,000 City of Philadelphia 4's..... 3,000.00

\$4,000 Cleveland, Ohio, School Bonds, 4½'s..... 4,000.00

Total amount of investments .....\$37,000.00

Fraternally yours,

LOUIS WAGNER, Trustee.

Philadelphia, August 1, 1912.

This certifies that I have examined the foregoing statement of accounts and the assets on hand, and find the same correct, the assets amounting to \$37,000.00, and the balance to the credit of the account, \$1,070.48.

W. CLIFFORD WOOD,  
Assistant Cashier, Third National Bank.



## REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

### REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LINCOLN WAY.

*To the Commander-in-Chief and Members of the Forty-sixth National Encampment, G. A. R.*

Your committee on the Lincoln Way respectfully submits the following report:

The report of this committee to the Forty-fifth National Encampment contained a full statement of the status of the proposed memorial to Mr. Lincoln at that time. No substantial progress toward settling the question of the form of the memorial has since been made.

The Lincoln Memorial Commission, authorized by the Cullom bill, and which favors a monument to be located on the banks of the Potomac, has not yet made its report to Congress.

Representative Borland, of Missouri, introduced a bill (H. R. 13045) in the House of Representatives last winter, which was referred to the Committee on the Library. That committee gave a hearing, lasting two days, to those who favored and to those who opposed the bill.

Your Chairman and Past Commander-in-Chief John C. Black appeared in behalf of the Grand Army, and argued for the passage of the bill.

We were somewhat surprised when another member of the Grand Army appeared in opposition to the measure, and questioned the right of your committee to speak for the Grand Army.

Down to the present time the Committee on the Library has made no report on the bill to the House of Representatives, and it is doubtful if it makes one at the present session.

Unless the suggestion made by your committee to the Forty-fifth National Encampment, advising all Veterans to write their Senators and Members of Congress in behalf of the Lincoln Way, is followed, your committee thinks the outlook for this form of a memorial is not bright. We recommend, however, the continuance of the committee for another year.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.

THOS. S. HOPKINS,  
Chairman.

### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION FOR VETERANS IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., September, 1912.

*To the Forty-sixth National Encampment, G. A. R.*

*Comrades:* The great work of this committee during the present year has been to try and carry out the directions of the Forty-fifth and two previous National Encampments, and to secure the passage by Congress of a bill to erect a Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington, Va., according to the report of a commission authorized by the sixteenth section of the Public Buildings bill, approved May 30, 1908. As shown by previous reports of this committee such a structure is not only absolutely necessary for Memorial

Day and other occasions, but it is the patriotic duty of Congress to erect this Memorial Amphitheater as a testimonial of the Nation's appreciation of the services rendered by the Comrades buried there and those sleeping in other cemeteries all over the land, and to grant the unanimous request of our living Comrades that it be erected. The United States, as far as this committee is advised, has erected but one of the many hundreds of monuments—that to the unknown dead—now in Arlington, all the others having been erected by Comrades or relatives.

Arlington, so frequently called "Beautiful Arlington," is unique. No other such burial place exists in the world, and Arlington will continue till the end of time to be the burial place of the Nation's soldiers and sailors. Our Comrades are being brought there daily to lie with other Comrades in that hallowed spot. Quite recently the remains of that great soldier, General Kearney, after resting fifty years in his home State, have been reinterred in Arlington. So also only a few weeks ago the gallant dead who for fourteen years had slept in the hull of the Maine were brought to and buried in Arlington. At no other place are there such gatherings on Memorial Day, not only for the large numbers present, but because of the eminent character of the audience, composed not only of thousands of our Comrades and their families, the United Spanish War Veterans, the Sons of Veterans, and the various patriotic societies, but of a large number of the most prominent men in the government service, from the President and his cabinet and the foreign ministers down to the humblest citizen, and there is no suitable place in Arlington for such a gathering. For the past two years one of the principal speakers on Memorial Day has been the President of the United States. In commencing his address May 30, 1911, and viewing the immense audience before him, the President said:

"The first suggestion that the appearance of this audience makes to me is that Congress ought to have adopted the proposition embodied in a bill by Judge Kimball of this city, whereby on occasions like this, in this great National cemetery, the people who wish to honor the dead shall have a comfortable place of assembly."

In carrying out the orders of the last Encampment to secure the passage of a bill for this purpose during the present session of Congress, the chairman of this committee asked the President to urge the matter in his message to Congress. This he did December 21, 1911, in the following language:

"MEMORIAL AMPHITHEATER AT ARLINGTON."

"I beg to renew my recommendation of last year that the Congress appropriate for a Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington, Va., the funds required to construct it upon the plans already approved."

In his address May 30, 1912, when there were at least ten thousand persons present, the President again referred to the matter as follows:

*"Ladies and Gentlemen, My Fellow-Citizens and Army Veterans.*

"Another year has rolled around and brought this day for the revival of tender memories of those whose sacrifices and lives were given in the cause of their country. Again it seems appropriate to remind Congress of the neglect to construct in this Valhalla of the Nation a suitable edifice in which to hold these ceremonies, of sufficient size and comfort to accommodate the growing numbers whom the beautiful anniversary will call here, and at the same time to mark by its size, its grandeur and its simplicity of classic beauty the affection and reverence that the nation cherishes for this yearly renewal of our vows of patriotism over the graves of those whose lives and memory embody and typify in the highest degree love of country."

The proposed bill to erect the amphitheater before being introduced into either house of Congress was submitted to and approved by the War Department, which has charge of all national cemeteries. The bill was introduced into the Senate by Senator Sutherland, chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, and referred to his committee, being Senate Bill No. 4780, and into the House by Hon. R. H. Austin, M. C. from Tennessee, member of the House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, and referred to that committee, being House Bill No. 16092. Your chairman had asked Hon. R. Bartholdt, M. C., from Missouri, who had been so much interested in the matter when he was chairman of that committee in a previous Congress, but was now not a member of the committee, to introduce it, but he strongly advised that a present member of the committee should introduce it, as he would be in a position to watch it and help in the committee, and he introduced me to Mr. Austin, who gladly introduced it, and has done all he could to further the interests of the bill.

A hearing could not be secured until March 29, 1912, when, unfortunately, both committees chose the same day and hour. As it was not possible to attend both hearings, we had the hearing with the Senate committee on that date, and the conditions being explained to the House chairman he postponed it until after the Senate had acted on the bill, with the promise of giving us a full hearing at that time. Upon consulting with the Commander-in-Chief the chairman of this committee was advised not to call his committee together at the hearing on account of the expense involved, but to secure the attendance of Comrades in Washington. This was done, and a large number of prominent Comrades were present. The Senate committee gave us a full hearing and before they left the room voted to report the bill favorably, with some slight amendments which were entirely satisfactory to your committee, and it was thus reported April 2, 1912. A copy of the printed hearing is filed with this report as an exhibit.

From April 2 to July 24 every effort was made to pass the bill, but each time it was called up one Senator interposed an objection, which put the bill over. Various Senators saw him and argued with him without success. The Commander-in-Chief wrote to him and G. A. R. influence from his own State was brought to bear on him, but he still stood firm. Your chairman saw him and argued with him, showing that it was the unanimous wish of the surviving soldiers of the war, as expressed by their National Encampments three several times, and that the services of those buried in Arlington in saving their country called for this from Congress; that it was to be a building not for today or for this century, but for all time, and should not be cheap, but enduring. He acknowledged the Amphitheater was needed and ought to be built, but said, as proposed, it cost too much—as though any structure could cost too much to properly show the nation's appreciation of the soldier and sailor dead. Your chairman consulted with various prominent Senators and they all said the bill must and would be put through just as reported by the Senate committee, in spite of the objection of that one Senator, and that they would not consent to the amount appropriated being reduced; that it was not too large. But time was passing and your committee was becoming greatly discouraged, fearing that the hot weather would cause Congress to rush business and adjourn, but just at six o'clock in the evening of July 24 the private secretary of Senator Sutherland called your chairman over the phone to tell him that the Memorial Amphitheater Bill had just passed the Senate.

That night your chairman commenced to arrange for the promised hearing before the House committee, and the next day the committee fixed Friday, August 2, and a large number of Comrades have been notified to be present. Many are out of the city, but it is hoped to have a representative company.

The hearing before the House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds was held on August 2. There was much more than a quorum present, thanks to the efforts of Mr. Austin and the clerk of the committee



to secure a quorum. Several Comrades were also present, but not as many as at the hearing before the Senate committee, on account of absences from the city. The committee gave the most earnest attention to the arguments for the passage of the bill and at the close of the hearing each member of the committee announced his intention to vote for it. The committee, after hearing your chairman and the explanations of the plans made by Mr. Brainard of the firm of Carrere & Hastings, the architects who drew the plans, were so strongly in favor of passing the bill that your chairman did not think it necessary to call upon any other Comrade to speak.

The committee were very anxious to report it to the House and get action on it immediately, but felt themselves prohibited from doing so by the action of the Democratic caucus prohibiting them from reporting public buildings bills at the present session. They thought it too near the close of the session to secure action by said caucus exempting this bill from said rule, and concluded to act upon it favorably and add it to the Omnibus Building Bill, which will be reported and acted upon early in December next. Your chairman was told that such action on their part would make the passage of the bill absolutely sure. Your committee can therefore report to the Forty-sixth National Encampment that they believe the erection of the great monument at Arlington, for which we have worked so many years, is *now absolutely assured*; but your committee does not think it wise to cease working for this great memorial until the bill has actually been enacted into a law, and therefore recommend that this committee be continued in the duty assigned to it by the Forty-fifth National Encampment until its final passage, and that the incoming Commander-in-Chief be requested to again name your chairman as the chairman of this committee for another year.

The following letter has just been received:

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U. S.

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 2, 1912.

JUDGE I. G. KIMBALL, *House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.*

*My Dear Judge Kimball:* The Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds unanimously instructed me to report favorably on H. R. 16092 and S. 4780, providing for a Memorial Amphitheater at Arlington, Virginia, to be included in the Omnibus Buildings Bill when it is reported to the House early next December. In this bill there may be some provision regarding employment of outside architects that we may desire to amend, but so far as the amount and purposes of the bill are concerned, the committee was unanimous in its favor.

Congratulating you and those of your good workers in the G. A. R. on your efforts, I am, with kind regard.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) JOHN L. BURNETT,  
*Acting Chairman.*

One other matter of very great importance to our Comrades under the civil service has been dealt with by your committee, but at this writing has not been settled by the conference committee and the result cannot be reported.

It was brought to the attention of your chairman that an amendment by the Senate to the Legislative, Executive and Judicial Appropriation Bill for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1913, would seriously affect and in time discharge all our Comrades holding positions under the civil service laws, in that it provided for a maximum rating to be established by the Civil

Service Commission and that if any clerk fell below that rating he was to be discharged for inefficiency. The bill had been referred to a conference committee. Your chairman wrote to each member of that committee, taking the ground that such a rule ought not to apply to our Comrades, but that if found at any time mentally disqualified from performing the duties of the office which they held they should be given a lower position with a salary sufficient to comfortably support them; that their services to their country during the years of war and their faithful service under the civil service since the war entitled them to be retained in the civil service during the few years of life yet left to them. Several members of the conference committee replied and promised to carefully consider the question in conference.

The year just closing has been a very busy one for this committee. Its chairman, living in Washington, has had considerable correspondence with Comrades from other Departments about various matters, some properly matters for this committee, but much not within its jurisdiction.

This committee wants to extend its thanks to Senator Sutherland for the great interest he has taken in the Memorial Amphitheater and the persistency with which he continued to press it until its final passage. Its thanks are also due to his private secretary, who extended many favors to it and was always ready to do what he could to secure the passage of the bill.

Thanks are also due to Hon. R. H. Austin and Hon. R. Bartholdt, and to Hon. John R. Burnett, acting chairman, and to the members of the House committee, for their interest in and help for the bill.

Respectfully submitted in F., C. and L.

I. G. KIMBALL, *Chairman*.

LEO RASSIFUR.

SAMUEL R. VAN SANT.

JOHN T. HOLMES.

E. B. FENTON.

CREED F. BOYER.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BULL RUN BATTLEFIELD.

NORRISTOWN, PA., July 1, 1912.

H. M. TRIMBLE, *Commander-in-Chief*, G. A. R.

*Comrade*: As foreshadowed in the report of your Committee on Bull Run Battlefield Monuments (see Committee's Report to the Forty-fifth Annual Encampment, pages 174, 175, 176), your committee was granted a hearing before the full Committee on Military Affairs of the House of Representatives, on the 13th day of April, 1912. Hon. James Hay of Virginia, the chairman, presided.

In the absence of the chairman of your committee on account of sickness, Comrade E. W. Whittaker, of Washington, D. C., whom the chairman had delegated as a substitute to act in his place, and who, by the way, had been the original chairman of the committee, appeared before the committee, accompanied by Comrade George C. Round, of Manassas, Va., who was thoroughly conversant with the history of the erection and dedication of the two monuments, viz., that on "Groveton Heights" and the one on the "Henry Farm," both erected by United States troops who were still in the service, on private property, and consecrated to the "memory of the patriots who fell on these fields" on the 11th day of June, 1865, and which monuments it is the desire of the Grand Army of the Republic, through its committee, to have the Congress, through the Secretary of War, purchase the land upon which they stand for the purpose of caring for and preserving them for all time as the

*first monuments* erected and dedicated in honor of the men who fell fighting for their Flag and country in the fratricidal strife from 1861 to 1865.

The Committee on Military Affairs gave your committee a very patient and interesting audience, asking many questions bearing upon the subject, seeking to know what was desired of them, how the appropriation asked of Congress was to be expended, how much would be required to accomplish the object intended by your committee, and otherwise manifesting a strong desire to meet the requirements of the committee when, at some subsequent conference, the matter should be presented to them in a more detailed and tangible form. Representatives of the owners of the land upon which the monuments stand were asked to ascertain from the owners the least reasonable amount they desired for the land necessary to be purchased by the Government for this purpose—in short, to get options to be presented for the guidance of the Committee on Military Affairs at some subsequent meeting.

Several exhibits and sworn statements, besides a full history of the erection and dedication of the monuments, prepared and presented by Comrade Round, were placed before the Committee for their consideration, all of which had a pertinent bearing upon the matter before them.

This is the first time during the existence of this committee—a period of six years—that a hearing was granted to it by the House Committee on Military Affairs, and is, therefore, an encouraging sign, as it evidences an awakening on the part of the Congress to the necessity of caring for these monuments. Probably this is due, in a measure, to the "Peace Jubilee" that was held at Manassas, on the Battlefield of Bull Run, on the fiftieth anniversary of the first battle, July 21, 1861, when the men who opposed each other on that field met in a reunion of the "Blue and the Gray," which was honored by the presence of the President of the United States and other notables; but, be that as it may, your committee is now inclined to hope for final success. To this end they would suggest that all Comrades interested in the care of these monuments, during the next session of Congress, urge the matter upon the attention of their respective Congressmen with a view to having Congress at that session act favorably upon the bill before it. In this way they can help the committee materially.

During the year the committee was increased from eight to nine members. Comrade C. A. E. Spaemer, of Baltimore, Md., died, and the Commander-in-Chief appointed Comrade Rev. N. H. Holmes of Washington, D. C., to fill the vacancy. Comrade Spaemer was one of the three original members of the committee and did good work while serving on it.

As the outlook for final success seems brighter now than at any time since the committee was originally formed, and as a determined effort should be made to continue the good work during the next session of Congress, your committee begs leave to submit this, its report, with the recommendation that the committee be continued.

WILLIAM J. WELLS (Chairman),  
E. W. WHITTAKER,  
JAMES MCLEER,  
ALFRED S. ROE,  
JOHN W. RUTLER,

N. H. HOLMES,  
JOEL H. LUCIA,  
FRANK BATTLES,  
CHARLES C. CHAPIN,

*Committee.*

## REPORT OF FREDERICKSBURG NATIONAL MILITARY PARK COMMITTEE.

Washington, D. C., August 14, 1912.

COL. CHAS. R. E. KOCH, *Adjutant-General, G. A. R.*

*Comrade:* The time has not seemed propitious for pressing the Fredericksburg National Military Park project at this session, further than to



reintroduce the bill. This was done in the Senate by Senator Martin of Virginia, and in the House by Representative William A. Jones of the same State.

It was not deemed good policy to urge the matter at a time when such urgency might in some way interfere with the passage of the pension legislation which was so desperately needed by the aged Veterans and upon which all energies of the Grand Army of the Republic were concentrated. I feel certain that all the Comrades will concur in the wisdom of this policy.

The bill is now in shape for action at the next session, when the field will be comparatively clear.

In the meantime it is proposed to begin an active campaign through all the press to arouse public interest in that Gethsemane of American valor, the country around Fredericksburg, by telling the story of how that soil is consecrated by the blood of more brave men than any other similar area on earth, and by emphasizing the facts that these brave men were the flower of American manhood and died there by scores of thousands for their convictions as to the right, the greatest public interest can be aroused in the matter, which will influence Congress to pass the bill and make the needed appropriation.

Yours in F. C. and L.,

JOHN McELROY.

## REPORT OF ANDERSONVILLE PRISON PARK PROPERTY COMMITTEE.

CHARLES R. E. KOCH, *Adjutant-General, G. A. R.*

*Dear Comrade:* I am in receipt of your favor of the 13th asking for report of the Andersonville Committee. Made report to last National Encampment, in which asked that the Committee be discharged, "there being nothing further for it to do." I renew that recommendation.

I am fraternally,

WM. WARNER.

## REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION.

HARVEY M. TRIMBLE, *Commander-in-Chief, G. A. R.*

*Comrade:* Your Committee on Legislation would respectfully report that at their solicitation a concurrent resolution passed both Houses of Congress authorizing the donation of two brass cannon to be manufactured into bronze buttons for use by the Grand Army of the Republic.

Your Committee earnestly endeavored to secure such legislation as they thought would enable the Grand Army of the Republic and the United Confederate Veterans, together with affiliated orders, to secure more favorable railroad rates, particularly to the National Encampments. To this end bills were introduced in both Houses of Congress, the passage of which it was believed would bring about the desired result. Later the Chairman of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, with a view of securing an early and favorable consideration by his Committee, was waited upon. During the interview, the Hon. William C. Adamson, of Georgia, Chairman, stated that the matter had already been carefully considered by his Committee and they had come to the conclusion that under the law the railroads were not prohibited from giving such rates as they saw fit.

Later the Committee also waited upon Judge Clements, Chairman of the Interstate Commerce Commission, and by him were told in substance that the railroads could, under existing law, grant any rate they chose, provided they

granted to all who might attend or go to the same place at the same time, the same minimum rate. In confirmation of these opinions, it is known that the Southern railroads have granted a rate of one cent a mile to the National Encampments of the United Confederate Veterans; this without any violation of the Interstate Commerce Law; showing that the Northern roads can, if they will, do the same thing by the Grand Army of the Republic.

Respectfully submitted,

WASHINGTON GARDNER,  
*Chairman.*

## REPORT OF LINCOLN CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE.

NEW YORK, August 7, 1912.

CHARLES R. E. KOCH, *Adjutant-General, G. A. R.*

*Comrade:* Pursuant to custom, the Lincoln Centennial Committee submits its annual report to the **Forty-fifth National Encampment**.

Much time and thought has been devoted during the past year toward the disposition of the brochures and medals, hoping to dispose of them all—make final report and remit to the trustees of the Permanent Fund the net proceeds. Some progress has been made, but there still remains in the hands of the committee 117 bound volumes of the brochure and 500 unbound. The cost of binding the latter will be about thirty dollars and this expenditure, when made, will practically cover all the necessary outlay in the future. There are also on hand 425 medals and no more can be produced, as the die has been destroyed.

There is on deposit in bank the sum of two hundred and fifty-four 93/100 (\$254.93) to the credit of the committee and this amount can be at once remitted to the trustees of the Permanent Fund on the adoption of this report.

The committee wishes to express herein its grateful appreciation of the efforts put forth by Cora M. Davis, national president of the Woman's Relief Corps, who, after obtaining the approval of Commander-in-Chief Trimble, placed the matter before the corps through their National Orders No. 4. And quite a number of volumes of the brochure were subscribed for, thereby aiding very materially in the disposition of the number sold during the year.

The assistance rendered the committee fully and fitly exemplifies the loyalty and purposes of the Woman's Relief Corps and we have no doubt that we shall have much more to appreciate before the close of another year, for with indefatigable zeal another effort is to be made to help us dispose of the remainder of our product and thus close up a very successful campaign.

Attached hereto is a section of the forthcoming address of the national president to the convention of the Woman's Relief Corps and it is made a part of this report, that the comrades of the G. A. R. may be further informed of the laudable aid always in the minds and hearts of our splendid auxiliary.

The brochure and medal are so eloquently described in the excerpt from the W. R. C. address, we need say no more, except to emphasize the fact that any school or public library receiving from a post a copy of the brochure will learn much of the Grand Army to appreciate and admire, and generations to follow will be better informed of the loyalty and sacrifices of the Union soldier and sailor of the Civil War, and of the noble aims and accomplishments in support of our government rendered to the last moment of its existence by the survivors of the momentous struggle, who organized and maintained our noble order through its half century of life.

The medal is a "work of art"—preserving in imperishable bronze the

features and maxim of the immortal Lincoln, who was our guide and commander.

The cost of the book is one and 64/100 dollars and the medal one and 18/100 dollars, postage paid, and will be mailed on receipt of remittance by the secretary of the committee, Wilbur F. Brown, 149 Broadway, New York City, N. Y.

The committee is mindful of the courtesy and help of Commander-in-Chief Trimble, who has drawn them to him by silken cords of fraternity and consideration, and it wishes him many years full of blessings and trust, and to yourself, adjutant-general, it sends its warm greetings of fellowship and tender regard.

ALLAN C. BAKEWELL, Chairman,  
WILBUR F. BROWN, Secretary,  
WILLIAM S. DAUKENSPECK,

J. PAYSON BRADLEY,  
HEMAN W. ALLEN,

Committee.

## REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON INVESTIGATING CHARGES AGAINST NATIONAL SOLDIERS' HOME.

HARVEY M. TRIMBLE, *Commander-in-Chief, G. A. R., Princeton, Ill.*

*Dear Sir:* In obedience to your Special Order No. 5, we the undersigned, visited the National Soldiers' Home at Dayton, Ohio, and spent two days there in the investigation of the charges published, against the conduct and management of this and other National Soldiers' Homes, in Pearson's Magazine for July, 1911, and also other publications. We arrived there on Tuesday, March 12, without having previously announced our coming, in order to remove any possibility of our not seeing the life in, and the workings of, this Institution, as they are every day.

We spent several hours with the Governor, Col. Clark, and his staff, whom he invited to meet us, and freely inquired of them with reference to the administrative conduct of this Home, and with special reference to the strictures contained in the magazine articles referred to. We carefully went over the various buildings—the barracks, dining-rooms, kitchens and hospital—and freely conversed with the members, during our entire stay, and by special appointment, made for us by the Governor, we met such members of the Home as had grievances or criticisms that they might wish to lay before us.

As a result of our inquiry, we desire to submit the following:

We find that food is supplied in abundant quantity, and of suitable quality. We could not elicit a single complaint on this score from the members. It is served in a systematic manner and under splendid conditions of care as to cleanliness. Meals are served three times a day, in two large mess rooms, to over 3,000 members, in first and second table sections at each meal. The system is a beautifully executed bit of administrative work, in *feeding*, but it is repugnant to the idea of home and meals, considered from our American standpoint. It may be the best possible solution of the problem, but it certainly smacks of a military camp or a prison, than of a home for the worthy though unfortunate men who saved this Nation. It is institutional.

This, we believe, is the oldest branch of the National Home for Disabled Soldiers. It was planned at a time when the men who sought its shelter were young, and recently released from the discipline of camp life. However well the provisions then made for these men in housing all in general barracks, and sounding reveille at 5:30, and walking them to the mess room a block or two away, and having them stand on the outside in all kinds of weather for six o'clock breakfast, may have filled conditions forty years ago, it certainly seems to us that these old wards of the Nation would have more comfort if meals could be served to each barrack separately, as it now is in barrack 8, the building occupied by the "infirm and aged."

The cooking being done in one kitchen for so many, cannot, in the nature of things, ever consider individual taste or appetite. A piece of steak or a



broiled chop is, under the present condition, next to an impossibility.

We find, as charged, that the average ration (that is, the average daily consumption of food material) is less than 20 cents per member—but we cannot admit that this is aught but a creditable showing to the administration and economic care of the officers in charge. The bill of fare is varied from meal to meal, and day to day; it is prepared a week in advance by the Commissary in consultation with the Surgeon and with the approval of the Governor. The food is placed upon the tables in abundant quantity, and the member's appetite in each case governs how much or how little he may wish to eat. It is true that *real butter* is not furnished; oleo is used as a substitute, because it is uniform in quality, wholesome, keeps better than butter, is approved by the medical department, and it is cheaper. We heard no protest against it. Milk and eggs are furnished quite frequently—coffee twice a day with milk. The men all impressed us by their appearance as being well fed—the lean and hungry look of starvation was not seen anywhere.

We learn that some years ago this branch had a beer hall, which was—although working under strict temperance regulation—a source of great profit for the Post fund of the Home; out of the abundance of this fund were actually constructed several buildings within the grounds of this branch, now the property of the United States. One of these buildings is the residence of the Commissary of Subsistence, who is also the administrator of the Post Fund. Inasmuch as the buildings were needed, and the Congress had made no appropriation for their erection, and the use of this fund for this purpose was the deliberate business judgment of the Board of Managers, who had full power in the matter, we do not see that this action deserves any condemnation; especially as the fund was not thus exhausted and is still being used for the securing of comforts, not contemplated in Congressional appropriations, for the members—such as maintaining the library and reading rooms, billard and card rooms, and providing special entertainments, theatrical and otherwise.

In our inspection of barracks we looked into the condition of the bedding, and we found many mattresses exceedingly thin for comfort. The bedsteads are of iron with woven wire springs. We learned from the members that whenever the weather permits, mattresses and bedding are aired weekly upon the lawns—but we did not learn how long these mattresses had been in use, or when they were made over. In June, 1911, the Board of Managers of the Home reported a Post Fund of 85,637.50, and a Posthumous Fund of \$25,217.73. It would appear to us that if the Congressional appropriations are not large enough to replace long worn mattresses of 1½ inches thickness with new ones double that thickness, a liberal expenditure from this fund for this purpose would be commendable and entirely justifiable.

We do not presume to place our brief study of these questions and our two days' actual local investigation, in comparison with the value of the knowledge of men with years of administrative experience, but we feel sure that the country is willing that the money that has been contributed to the Post Fund and to the Posthumous Fund, by the members of the Home themselves, shall be used liberally—within judicial business lines—to the securing of greater special enjoyments for the members, and in the securing of "home" comforts.

The hospital of this Branch we found in excellent condition of cleanliness; patients told us of painstaking care of medical officers and nurses. They appeared to be especially well fitted for their work and faithful in the performances of their duties. The entire medical staff is composed of young men. We learned that the appointments of medical officers are made by the Board of Managers from recent graduates of reputable medical schools. We did not learn how the reputability of medical schools is standardized or established, but it would seem that the medical or surgical capacity of the individual, rather than the standard of the school whence he graduated, should govern in the appointment of medical officers, and that these old

soldiers should have the same consideration now in this respect as is given by the Government in the selection for the Army and Navy and Marine Hospital Services—candidates should be required to pass a special examination.

From one to three members die in this branch each day. The mortuary chapel is connected by a tunnel with the hospital. We attended a funeral from this chapel. The casket in which the decedent had been carefully prepared and placed, was quite respectable; it was placed by four pall bearers upon a gun caisson carriage, while the band softly played "Lead Kindly Light." The Quartermaster and the Protestant Chaplain, an old soldier, preceded in a buggy, and the cortege, followed by the firing squad, moved slowly to the near-by burial hill, but not a single personal friend or mourner was there. We observed that the card of identification on the casket, as well as on the casket box, were of pasteboard, while a silver-plated ornament bearing the device "Our Comrade" was fastened upon the casket. It would seem to us the name might easily and quickly be graven under the words "Our Comrade" and thus render certain identification of the remains if later claimed by friends or relatives.

Every member who enters a Home agrees to abide by and obey the rules and regulations of the Board of Managers, under this extract from the admission application:

The said ..... further agrees that in the event of his death while a member of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, leaving no heirs at law or next of kin, all personal property owned by him at the time of his death, including money or choses in action held by him and not disposed of by will, whether such property be the proceeds of pensions or otherwise derived, shall vest in and become the property of said Board of Managers for the sole use and benefit of the post fund of said Home, and that all personal property of the said ..... shall upon his death, while a member, at once pass to and vest in said Board of Managers, subject to be reclaimed by any legatee or person entitled to take the same by inheritance at any time within five years after the death of such member; and he further stipulates and agrees that he will abide by and obey all the rules and regulations made by the Board of Managers, or by their order; that he will perform all duties required of him, and obey all lawful orders of the officers of the Home.

Rules of discipline, in a community so peculiarly situated and so large, must exist and be enforced. We did not find that any undue severity is being exercised in this Branch in cases of infraction of the established rules. Dismissals from the Home are not made peremptorily, but only after a hearing of the case before the Governor and his advisors, and confirmation by the Board of Managers. Governor Clark impressed us as a man temperamentally especially fitted for the responsible duties of this office. His heart and head seem to work in unison for the paternalism his position demands, and we regret to learn that he has retired to private life.

Notice was given by us, through the Governor of the Home, that on the second day of our visit we would meet any of the members who might have anything to complain of or criticise in the administration or conduct of the Home, and they were told that such communications might be freely made. In all, eleven men appeared before us. Of these not one complained of an insufficiency of food, or of the poor quality of food served at any time during their stay in the Home. One complained that he had been denied the privilege of the Home for a time, because he had been caught bringing liquor into it. Another, who had only been there a short time, found fault because learning of the illness of his wife, he desired to go to her, and the officers

of the Home had refused to advance him the money necessary for traveling, on his pension that would not be due for two months to come. Another complained that he had been discharged from a position in the boiler room and that a civilian had been appointed in his stead. One stated that on one occasion the hospital steward picked up a five dollar bill and had appropriated it of his own use, which the complainant had accidentally dropped. Two members complained that the administration was not severe enough with members that brought liquor into the Home. Still others criticised the conduct of some of the members for grabbing more than was their due at the expense of other members, and they expressed the belief that the administration was not severe enough in the correction of such abuses. Several, as a remedy for the necessary restricted privileges of the Home, suggested the payment of larger pensions, which would permit them to live with their wives or families.

All of these cases had a patient hearing on our part, and after that we reviewed them with the officers of the Home, and found that each of them had been duly heard by the Governor, and the case properly and judiciously disposed of, so far as this was in his power of disposal.

There are, however, at least two cases that were brought to our attention upon which we feel the Board of Managers in their general rulings are in error, and in these cases, and in all others like them, the rules governing should be made elastic enough to consider exceptional cases on their merit. We find that in at least two cases in this Home, competent members of the Home are occupying positions of high clerical responsibility, for which in one case \$20.00, and in another, \$25.00 is being paid, when in similar positions occupied by civilians, from \$75.00 to \$125.00 would be paid. We ascertained from the officers of the Home that this statement was true, but that the theory of administration as outlined by the Managers, was that men admitted to the Home had to show total disability, and that therefore they were prima facie incompetent to do a full day's work, and as they were members of the Home, they received their board, raiment and lodging and medical care if sick, which did not apply to the civilian employe.

It seems to us that these cases should be judged upon the facts in each case, and not upon any generally preconceived theory. If an old soldier is totally disabled by reason of the strong competition of younger men to make a living for himself or wife in the world, although he has plenty of willingness, ability and energy to do so, when he goes to a Home, surely this opportunity should not be denied him. Here he should have still a preference over the civilian, as the civilian has over him in the outside world. The discrepancy between the salary of \$20.00 and \$75.00, and between \$25.00 and \$125.00, is out of all proportions to the differences between the privileges of old soldiers and civilian employes, and in our opinion needs readjusting.

We are of the opinion that not nearly as many members as would be competent and willing to perform clerical and other service, are given an opportunity for such employment, and that in these Homes, if nowhere else, especial preference should be given them. The compensation should be the same as that given to civilians for like service. If the Home member is receiving privileges not enjoyed by the civilian employe, the cost of these privileges is computable, and can be charged against his salary; or the soldier employe might be classed, for the time being, as a civilian employe, with only the pay and emoluments of such civilian.

If the general rules of the Board of Managers of the National Soldiers' Home ostracizes the members of Homes, and ostracizes those competent to perform labor or service from an opportunity to do it, we must respectfully recommend that this honorable Board be requested to review and amend its rules, in order to discourage idleness and indolence, and to encourage for as long a time as possible the active usefulness of as many old soldiers as would be glad to accept such encouragement.

We desire to acknowledge the courteous co-operation of Col. Clark and



his officers. In our endeavor to ascertain facts every facility was freely given us, under instructions previously obtained from the Board of Managers.

Respectfully submitted,

HENRY A. AXLINE,  
COLA D. R. STOWITS,  
CHARLES R. E. KOCH,  
*Chairman.*

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NEW YORK, N. Y., August 1, 1912.

CHARLES R. E. KOCH, *Adjutant-General, G. A. R.*  
*Northwestern University Building,*  
*31 West Lake Street, Chicago, Illinois.*

*My Dear Sir:* I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 20, enclosing a copy of the report of the committee appointed by the Commander-in-Chief of the G. A. R. to investigate charges published in *Pearson's Magazine* and otherwise against the conduct of the National Military Home at Dayton, Ohio, and to thank you for the courtesy in submitting the same.

At a period when fault-finding and criticism seem to be popular it is gratifying to note that this committee made an earnest effort to get the facts as to conditions, and report accordingly. The direction and management of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers, with its ten branches scattered throughout the country from Togus, Maine, to Santa Monica, California, with a total of 34,066 members cared for during the year ending June 30, 1912, and the necessity of having efficient and systematic organization to provide for their wants and needs, has been but little understood. The report of an investigation conducted by a committee that has performed its duties fairly and impartially will, it is believed, prove helpful to the Board of Managers and tend to a better understanding as to the responsibilities involved.

The suggestion of the committee to the effect that it would promote the comfort of members to have meals served in each barracks separately is perhaps true, but is hardly practicable. Barracks with facilities for messing have been established at each branch for the aged and infirm who cannot walk to the main mess hall.

The reference of the committee to thin mattresses is noted. There are in use some mattresses of the thickness stated by the committee. This is not an ordinary cotton mattress, but is made of cotton coil firmly woven together so that when finished it has a smooth and even surface. It is durable, elastic, easily removed from the cover for cleaning and fumigating, and has been found to meet the needs of the service. The most of the mattresses in use are of sufficient thickness, and the instructions are, and have been, that in every case where a member desires an additional mattress it can be supplied. Notice of these instructions has been published, so that if any member is using a thin mattress it is of his own choice. There is a sufficient supply of mattresses and blankets available and they are furnished to meet the needs.

As to the appointment of medical officers, the committee seems not to have been fully advised, and reached the conclusion that in making appointments the school from which the applicant graduated was given more consideration than the fitness of the applicant. The contrary is true. Applicants are required to furnish evidence of good moral character and that they are graduates of a reputable medical college. If these are found satisfactory the applicant is appointed as an *interne* at one of the branch hospitals, and required to serve a probationary period under the observation of the Surgeon.

If this actual service shows efficiency and merit the applicant is appointed as an Assistant Surgeon of the lowest grade. If the probationary service as interne fails to demonstrate the fitness of the applicant he is dropped from the service. All promotions in the medical service of the Home are made in accordance with the length of service and merit. It is believed that by having an actual probationary service under observation of the Surgeon and other medical officers, the fitness of an applicant can be better determined than it could be by any theoretical examination that might be provided, and that the class of Assistant Surgeons employed by the Home is equal to that of the Army and Navy.

There is no question connected with the administration of the Home that has received more thorough and careful consideration than that of providing for the employment of members. From the establishment of the Home the management has realized that idleness breeds discontent, and has endeavored to give employment to members to the full extent of their abilities and willingness to serve in the various positions in the Home. It has been the fixed rule to give them preference over civilians. In preparing the schedule of pay and allowances, as required by law, the rule has been to arrange so as to give employment to as many members as possible, consistent with economical and efficient service, it being believed to be better to employ for a given service a greater number at lower rates of pay, than to employ a less number at higher rates. For a long period no difficulty was experienced in securing members competent and willing to do practically all the work connected with the administration of the Home. As time went on, with the increasing age and infirmities of members, and with the increased pensions, it became more and more difficult to secure capable and willing members to fill the positions necessary to provide efficient and uniform service. The changes in detail became more frequent, which tended to disturb, to disorganize, and to render the service unsatisfactory. For example, at the Central Branch the number of positions on the schedule of pay and allowances filled by members on June 30, 1911, was 541. The number of details of members made during the year ending June 30, 1912, was 1,734. Thus it will be seen that there have been four members in each position during the year, making an average of about three months' tenure of employment for each.

The intent and purpose of the Home, to provide for the maintenance and the comfort of disabled Veterans who cannot care for themselves, cannot be accomplished except by having an efficient and dependable organization at all times. Such an organization is no longer possible, depending entirely upon member employes, and the schedule has been arranged to employ civilians in certain positions, such as engineers, clerks, nurses, attendants, waitresses, and positions involving hard labor. No fair comparison of the rate of pay as between civilian and member employes can be made owing to the fact that the duties are not the same. As stated above, the schedule for members was arranged with a view of being liberal as to numbers, and subdividing duties, while the schedule for civilians is arranged consolidating duties and reducing the number employed to the minimum number to meet the needs of the service. It is the belief of the Board of Managers that the changes that have been made from member to civilian employes have resulted in improving the service and promoting the comfort and welfare of the members.

Respectfully yours,

J. W. WADSWORTH,

*President, Board of Managers, National Home for D. V. S.*







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